

February 22, 1930

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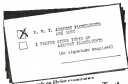
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The Oldest American Aeronautical Magazine

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Contents for February 22, 1930

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 5

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Building Zeppelins in the United States 366

Intensifying high lights on the construction and equipment of the ZRS-4 and ZRS-5 By WILLIAM F. FRYER

The Standardization of Airplane Wheels 370

A review of work accomplished in far and near distant airports regarding (Zeiss) wheels By JOHN H. GALE

Operations of the Navy's Safest Squadron 373

An account of the flying activities of the new aircraft carrier By LEONARD B. WOODWARD

Regulating Air Commerce, Article IV—Enforcement 376

The fourth of the flying activities of the new aircraft carrier By E. M. DODGE

What are the Prospects for the Present Year? 380

A continuation of the discussion by leaders in the industry on 1930 manufacturing and design trends

CONTENTS	380	FROM THE DAILY PRESS	385
GENERAL NEWS	385	NEW VOLUMES FOR THE LIBRARY	386
AIRPORTS AND AIRLINES	386	ABSTRACTS AND REVIEWS	387
FOREIGN ACTIVITIES	387	NEW PATENTS	388
WHAT OUR READING HAS	388	THE READER'S LOG BOOK	389

COMING

Aerial photography in Alaska. [A description of the Larkins-Claude Airport. Correcting discrepancies—the Census Center, the new Ketchikan-Looming Annapolis the Sioux-Marshall mapbook.]

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A MORGAN-BELL PUBLICATION—ESTABLISHED 1910

EDWARD F. WARNER, Editor

VOLUME 11, February 22, 1930, NUMBER 1



How Not to Handle Accident Publicity

SOME PEOPLE will never understand the psychology of the newspaperman. Because they have little or no respect for him, they think that he can be frightened or satisfied with keeping a sorry cut of print. They do not seem to realize that he is extremely loyal. He is loyal to his paper. It may be a "sheet" of the most doubtful journalistic standing, and he may know it—but he will do almost anything short of murder for that paper. So he is violating a confidence is concerned, a newspaperman would rather go to jail first. That has been demonstrated in some of the recent prohibition investigations. He is proud. He thinks his calling is of the highest.

He is a rather curious combination, the newspaperman, but what he is human. Make a friend of him, and you have a real friend. "Play ball" with him, as he himself is likely to phrase it, loyally and squarely, and he will play the same sort of ball with you. But to cross him, threaten him, or try to buy him off is asking for trouble. He will work ten times as hard to get a story if an attempt is made to thwart him. This is not wholly resentment. The effort becomes a battle of wits with an assurance of tremendous satisfaction if he succeeds in winning. Resentment, of course, does play a large part. It is resentment that will cause a newspaperman to delve further into a story than he would ordinarily, but the resentment is less personal than it is a reaction of what he considers an affront to his paper, the dignity of which he places far above his own.

There is a certain individual in Kansas City who now knows a great deal more about newspapermen and their reactions than he did formerly. It may help him in his dealings with them in the future. One of the planes operated by his company crashed and the pilot and four passengers were killed. Instead of attempting to aid the newspapermen by supplying them with all

the information that was available, he tried in effect to hush up the whole affair. He is said to have sent a crew of pilots and mechanics to the scene of the crash with instructions to allow no photographs to be taken, and to destroy what was left of the plane so as to entirely remove all evidence of what had happened.

Although he probably thought he was helping aviation, the press dispatches would indicate that he did not use his head.

His fatal error was in not allowing the newspaper photographers to take pictures of the wrecked plane and in threats made to break the cameras and even, it was reported by the local papers, to kill the photographers.

The result was that The Kansas City Times devoted to the crash practically all of the front page and a large portion of the second and third. There was the actual story of eye witnesses as related to the reporters; much dwelling on the theory alleged to have been made to them, a description of how the wreckage was removed within an hour after the crash occurred; accounts of the various theories advanced concerning its cause, a report of the coroner's plans for an investigation; a yarn telling of a prohibition of the tragedy by the wife of one of the victims, a biography of the husband; an interview with a man who took the first instead of the ill-fated second woman, a "sob story" about the wife of the pilot; even reference to a passenger whose life was saved by his leaving the plane at Topeka.

Considering that the crash was bigger news for the Kansas City papers than for dailies elsewhere, even in Kansas City it would not have received such widespread publicity had not an attempt been made to destroy the evidence and to keep the newspapermen away. Nor would the accident have been played up as much in other cities. The events following the

tragically constituted news. It is safe to assume that personally every story on the crash that appeared in the *Times* was broadcast in the papers throughout the country by the news service representatives in Kansas City. The attitude which the air line official is reported to have adopted was the worst possible. It was a barefaced play.

Those in the industry must learn to face the music. They must learn that a serious crash cannot be kept out of print any more than a railroad wreck or the loss of a ship at sea. It is news and must be handled as news. If this executive had made a practice of calling the Kansas City newspapers and the press services whenever there was news, and had always given the reporters correct information, if he had made friends with the aviation writers, he would have found them coming to him not only to obtain information but to give it. If he had tipped off the papers when the crash occurred, had told them all he knew about it, and had allowed the photographers to take as many pictures as they wanted, the editors would not have written the air that was made.

If there is the aircraft industry learn from a better experience that it is better to co-operate with the newspaper in every instance, and not put what favorable publicity is desired, perhaps the lesson has been worth while. The newspaper will benefit by more accurate information, and the air lines by the friendliness of the papers.



Contact Engineering

DESPITE the subtle braches imparted to the accusatorial poisoners of the moment by certain factors which center about selling, and to which there has been frequent allusion in these pages, there is among others one bright spot of color, one identified with selling which refuses to be subdued. This is the unadorned enthusiasm of those who still unashamedly strive to sell products to the airplane manufacturer. The stream of salesman, sales engineers, and even executives of manufacturing concerns in non-aeronautical activities who flock to the airplane manufacturer with hopes of selling has something for use in his plates is unassailable. This is indeed a healthy sign, indicating as it does the faith of these manufacturing organizations in the continued successful business future of aviation.

With the assigned attitude of the salesman who has a product which he confidently hopes the airplane manufacturer will find useful, and upon which he chief sales point is his ability to supply infinite quantities, we have contact sympathy. The representative who has a truck line type, of whose possibilities in aviation he has the remotest idea, but who is optimistic enough to expect the airplane manufacturer to find a profitable application

for him describes more than the courteous idealism he receives.

There is, however, a far larger group of those who represent reputable manufacturing concerns, with adequate engineering staffs, who also are anxious to enter the aeronautical field or to expand their present participation. Then too a splendid opportunity for the airplane manufacturer to reap a real benefit from cooperative contacts. These men deserve real consideration, far from them will come much of the technical refinement the industry requires, and at this stage of its growth.

Warily to acquire them with the facts on hand and finished materials now being and in only half doing the job on the part of the airplane manufacturer. The real opportunity for beneficial results of what we shall call contact engineering goes far deeper than this. The airplane manufacturer should not merely acquire the prospective addition to the fast-growing band of specialty manufacturers with existing products available for a specific purpose, but should go back to basic principles and requirements. For example, a prospective co-engineering manufacturer should not only be told of existing types of extinguishers all of which present desirable limitations, but also of the basic factors desirable in an extinguishing medium, so that his engineering force may revert to fundamentals and perhaps evolve as entirely new chemical or mechanical for the purpose.

This may at times involve considerable effort and cooperative activity on the part of the airplane manufacturer, but it is only by possessing a clear analysis of basic and desirable characteristics that real contact engineering may be brought into play. The technical staffs of specialty manufacturers are a distinct asset to our industry, which should be potentially reinforced by clearly defining our fundamental needs when encouraging their participation in our success.



Seaplane Buses

MARINE AIRCRAFT are making their way in the United States. After a prolonged period of almost complete extinction, they are creeping back into favor via the amphibian. If straight seaplanes are to regain a deserved popularity, and if it is to be feasible to carry an over water flying without the added weight and resistance of an amphibious gear, there is work to be done by port authorities, yacht clubs, airport companies, and airport commissions of waterfront cities as well as by airplane builders.

It is not enough to design seaplanes of the highest quality, and to provide for their production and for distribution at reasonable prices. Quite as much as landplanes, they must have places between which to fly. Even more than landplanes, they depend upon the artificial preparation of a site in order that operations may

be conducted with any degree of satisfaction. Perfectly natural landing fields, where seaplanes can be staked down at the open between their flights, are common in some parts of the world. Natural seaplane bases really safe in all which will weathers and permitting arrival and departure in complete independence of aid from the shore, are non-existent.

We have not lost sight of the great advantage of the seaplane, constantly summed up in the claim that "it flies over a continuous landing field." The knowledge that he need never be forced, by the rare event of sudden engine failure, to seek a dry field and side-slip into it is very comforting to the pilot. On the other hand, as classic anecdote has it: "When you get down on the land, there you are but when you get down on the sea, where are you?"

The landplane pilot, once on the ground, can always get out and walk to the nearest highway and telephone. The man in the seaplane is still on an unstable element. He has to get into harbor. He has either to find a runway, to pick up a mooring, or to drag anchor and make sure that it is holding on a good bottom. In either of the latter events he must feel someone to come off with a boat and take him to shore. These conditions are exceptionally favorable, a watch ought to be kept to prevent the plane from dragging anchor and from collisions, and if it is lightly loaded, to ballast it in the event of a squall.

If such things are to be the subject of casual arrangement on each port where the amateur seaplane arrives, he will have to be more than ordinarily enthusiastic to cling to the sport on spite of the annoyances. But there is no reason why they should be casual. They should be permanently provided for. The local airport should have its marine counterpart, where the seaplane can have expert care and where, if desired it can be pulled or hoisted from the water.

The municipalities which have given direct recognition to the claims of the marine aircraft can, so far as we have been able to discover, be numbered on the fingers of one hand. Port commissions and harbor boards ignore the problem. Commercial interests have generally shown an almost equal indifference, although there has recently been marked improvement there, especially in the neighborhood of New York.

The seaplane today works under much the same handicaps that confronted the landplane eight years ago. With no need for emergency landing places, for neither has created a profusion of water use available for that purpose, they must rely on the few have prepared berths. Without bases, there will be but few seaplanes. Without extended seaplane operations, there is no little incentive to provide ramps and shelters and shops,—but if they be provided, the seaplanes will soon be flourishing. The display of a little commercial courage, and if necessary the formation of organizations strong enough to provide a co-ordinated chain of water flying facilities all

the way along the Atlantic or Pacific coast, would furnish the key to a very real dilemma.



Little Ducks in Big Puddles

THOSE PERSONS who may now be pondering the advisability of entering the aircraft market with a new design, to be produced by an entirely new company, may profit a very good deal from a consideration of the present condition of the aviation industry where approximately 90 per cent of all production and sales are controlled by but a dozen large groups. Any company venturing forth with a new company at this time is almost sure to be a very small duck in a puddle of exceedingly large proportions. Consider the past five years within the automotive industry, during which time so new automobiles have been successfully brought forth except by companies whose resources and backing could be numbered as tens of millions of dollars.

Aviation is at a stage of development, as an organized industry, which was long ago reached by the automobile builders. The problems involved in the design, production, and sale of a new vehicle demand the attention of a metropolitan organization.

Not that the independent enterprise does not have its place, or is to be discouraged, for the very opposite is true. The place for the small enterprise in the aviation business is now more properly in the field of more or less local ventures such as taxi-plane operations, field and service developments, the manufacture, and sale of equipment and accessories, and other services which serve to fill out and strengthen the great body of the industry. The automobile has attained its universal application through the good offices of great chains of small garages, service stations, auto accessory stores, small dealers and service centers, and the like. Many of the leading executives of our great automobile manufacturing enterprises have come up from the ranks of small dealer establishments.

The big development in the aviation industry are no longer on the ground floor, and the rush to be in on the ground floor, and to get a manufacturing company started in one's own case, must soon subside. In its place we can only hope for the most widespread reduction of effort and of aeronautical financing into channels of field, flying, and service developments. Such activities, energetically pursued, offer the means of best advancing the whole industry and of bringing profits to the individuals concerned. By first promoting local aeronautical developments those who are ambitious to progress in the industry will have the opportunity of being big ducks in little puddles, and will with good management progress to keep pace with an expanded area of the body of water in which they swim.

BUILDING Zeppelins IN THE United States

Some Interesting High Lights on the Construction of the ZRS-4 and ZRS-5

By WALTER E. BURTON

WHEN THE ZRS-4 takes to the air in 1941, the United States Navy will have the largest airship ever built. Soon after, the ZRS-5 will join its sister ship in the skies. Each of these Zeppelin-type dirigibles will have a lifting gas capacity of 6,500,000 cu ft, making them 35 per cent larger than the Rigid R-100 and R-391, about twice the size of the Graf Zeppelin, and almost two and one-half times as large as the Los Angeles, the only Zeppelin operating in this hemisphere.

Work has been progressing for many months on plans for the ZRS-4. On Dec. 4, 1939, Rear Adm. William A. Moffett, chief of the Navy Bureau of Aeronautics, drove a gold coin into the master ring girder, marking the official beginning of the frame-work assembly. The girder is 135 ft. in diameter, outside measurement, and 120 ft. inside, and its thickness is 10 ft. on the outside edge. The girder is made up of aluminum sections that form a 36-sided polygon. The two outer rings are connected by six-inch girders to a single inner ring, providing a unit that has a triangular cross section. Other mem-

bers of the ship will be of the same general shape, but of varying diameters. Those near the tail will have only 24 sides. Longitudinal girders will connect the corners of the ring members, and will run the entire length of the hull. Thus the framework will be built up in the accepted Zeppelin style, consisting of a series of metal rings joined together by longitudinal members. But the new ships will contain numerous improvements not found in previously constructed rigid airships.

A comparison of the size of the new Zeppelins can be obtained by comparing them with existing ships, the Graf Zeppelin and the Los Angeles in Fig. 1.

THE NEW NAVY AIRSHIPS are being constructed in the shipyard factory and dock erected by the Goodyear-Zeppelin Corp. at Akron, Ohio, near the lake port. The dock, costing \$2,500,000, covers nearly nine acres of ground and is the largest building in the world whose roof is unsupported by pillars. It can hold a ship of 10,000,000 cu ft capacity. Cost of the ZRS-4 and ZRS-5 totals \$8,000,000.

Incidentally, the meaning of the letters and figures in the designations of these Zeppelins is interesting. The Z is a letter used by the Navy to indicate lighter-than-air craft. The R is for rigid, and the S is for scout. The number indicates the number of the ship's direct ancestor. Thus, the ZRS-4 is the fourth rigid airship scout.

Comparison of the figures in the table given above reveals that the new ships are only 9 ft. longer than the Graf Zeppelin, yet are almost twice as large in volume. This reflects the tendency of modern airship design which calls for a short, fat hull rather than the pencil-like ones that were produced in quantity during the World War. Comparison with the Graf Zeppelin is a little unfortunate, because the German ship was built to fit the only available large hanger, and engineers were not at liberty to produce a more nearly ideal structure.

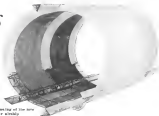
The aspect ratio of the Graf is 7.7, and of the American ships, 5.9. That is, the ZRS-4 and -5 will be about six times as long as they are wide.

The typical three-layer construction common to Zeppelin airships is followed in the American craft. There is a rigid metal framework sandwiched between an outer covering of doped and strengthened fabric, and an inner series of gas cells.

Main rings of the new ships are being spaced about

and Equipment of

Cross and side drawings of the new Goodyear airship.



24 ft. apart, and the gas compartments are set between them. There are 12 gas cells arranged to form a bulk-head system similar to that used on surface ships. Two compartments can be completely deflated without destroying the buoyancy of the craft.

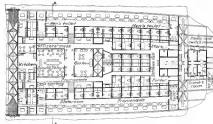
The main ring girders are of such construction that they are inherently strong enough to carry their loads without the use of cross webs. The triangular section makes it possible for members of the crew to climb inside them, entirely around the circumference of the ship, making inspections at all times during flight or rest. Between the main transverse rings are intermediate rings of single-girdle type, usually three to a compart-

ment. They serve merely to stiffen the hull, and carry no load.

FOR MOST of the length of the ship there will extend three corridors, triangular in cross section. One is along the center top line of the hull, and the other two are each located up the sides, about 45 deg. from the vertical. This arrangement is a new development in dirigible practice, and is a departure from the former single-corridor arrangement.

Stations for controlling vertical and horizontal movements are located near the rear of the craft, arranged in pairs. They are manipulated by cables running from the control car, and by emergency helms in the lower fin. The control car is forward and projects downward below the structure of the lower half of the hull. It is an integral part of the hull. It contains the latest known devices for efficient navigation, and is only large enough to take care of navigational requirements. The radio editor, officers' and crew's quarters, a large galley, mess room, a sofa, and the life are located above, within the hull and near the middle of the ship. Each sleeping room has four comfortable bunks.

The new ships use helium gas, a feature



The proposed arrangement of passenger accommodations inside the hull of a helium-filled airship.



Section A-A



An artist's conception of the "Glad" of a passenger ship.

that makes possible in a large extent many of the innovations they contain. Before a balloon-filled ship starts on a trip, the volume of gas at the maximum altitude it will reach is calculated, and only enough helium is introduced in the cells to fill them completely at this height. Provisions are always made, however, for letting out excess gas. In the ZRS ships, non-pressure valves are located at the top of the cells, the number reaching four for the largest cell. These valves operate automatically. In addition, there is one manually operated valve for each cell.

THE FACT that helium is non-inflammable permits the power cars to be hoisted into the hull, rather than left dangling below, as in all past ships. This arrangement has numerous advantages, chief among them being a reduction of parasite air resistance. Then the individual engine cars can be made more spacious. Power is transmitted through stiff steel shafts and bevel gears to the propellers which are located outside the hull, on outriggers. Each propeller is rotatable through 90 deg., and the engines are reversible. Therefore, the propellers can be made effective throughout a complete circle. This flexibility will prove valuable in saving fuel and gas, as a ship can land or take off safely against, across lift, and can descend slowly when the lift falls below normal.

Experience with the Los Angeles has demonstrated the feasibility of using a water recovery system. When gasoline or other fuel enters water in one of the products of combustion. Since the oxygen that forms the heavier part of the water molecule comes from the air, it is possible to increase the ship's weight by condensing the



Dining saloon of the dining saloon of the Los Angeles passenger airship.

water vapor present in exhaust gases. The Los Angeles actually has taken use of a system of this kind placed between the engine cars and hull. This however offers considerable parasite resistance.

The water recovery system on the new ships is designed to provide a maximum of cooling effect with a minimum of air resistance. Hot engine gases are run through a pre-cooler that reduces their temperature 86 per cent. The air used as a cooling medium is then piped to the cabin for heating purposes. Exhaust gases go from the pre-cooler into the condensers located in the side of the hull, above the engine rooms. These condensers are essentially flat tanks whose outer surface is built with that of the fabric covering. The condenser surface is tilted longitudinally so that the area will be maximum and the resistance minimum. Water sprays are located in the bottom of the condensers, and

the recovered water is carried by pipes to ballast bags along the side girders.

Perhaps the most picturesque feature of the new ships will be their airplane compartments. At about one-third the ship's length from the front is a compartment 75 ft long and 60 ft wide. In this, five completely assembled airplanes can be kept. At the bottom is a T-shaped opening, normally closed by collapsible doors. When it is desired to launch a plane, it is attached to a tractor and lowered through the opening. The engine is then started and warmed up, and the plane disengages itself from the tractor and continues flight. When the airplane returns it hovers below the tractor and the supporting ladders are engaged, and is then drawn back up into the "hangar." This feature, of great military value, could be of considerable commercial use as well.

Safety has been a primary factor in the design of the American Zeppelin. The Sternbach-Grover might lighten-the-airship engineers many things. Therefore, the hull strength of the new ships is such that they can enter at full speed a sharply-deflected vertical curve of 60 ft per sec. velocity, a more severe condition than any ever encountered in aerial flight. The ship can withstand violent movements of the rockers, either alone or in combination, and can fly at excessive angles of pitch.

THE ZEPPELIN character of multiple gas cells lends much to the safety factor. Likewise, the multi-engine power system permits the craft to negotiate with several of the power units out of commission. This advantage was demonstrated by the Graf Zeppelin when it returned to safety with all but one of its engines stopped, the star having gone out of commission soon after a severe Atlantic sea-born storm.

Although helium reduces the fire risk tremendously, every precaution has been taken to safeguard the ships from flames. Past experience has indicated that fire usually results only when a fuel tank is ruptured, as in a collision. This is considered a remote possibility in a Zeppelin, today at least. However, the engine rooms of the new ships have been made fireproof, and elaborate fire-fighting systems installed. Ventilation is adequate, so that explosive fuel vapor cannot collect in pockets. All electrical connections are gas-tight.

Lightning, contrary to general opinion, is not considered a real danger. There have been recorded only two instances of airplanes being fired by lightning and both ships were filled with hydrogen. A direct hit will damage the hull only slightly, and to a small degree, because of the well-boarded construction. The entire framework acts as a large Faraday cage, effectively dissipating a lightning charge.

The safety of the ships will be further improved by

Fig. 1—Comparison of the Los Angeles, the first Zeppelin, and the ZRS-4.

Item	Los Angeles	First Zeppelin	ZRS-4
Maximum gas vol., cu ft.	2,476,000	1,700,000	1,000,000
Length overall ft.	108 5	300	145
Maximum diameter ft.	70 7	80	75 0
Overall height ft.	100 6	115	110 0
Gas vol. cu ft.	100,000	100,000	100,000
Overall H.P.	10,000	1,000	10,000
Number of engines	4	2	4
Total horsepower	2,000	2,000	4,000
Maximum speed in h.	75 1	35	85 0
Range without refueling at 30 knots (10.5 h.p.)	4,000	0 01	10,000

the accessibility of all their parts at all times. Periodic inspection will make for avoidance of trouble.

THE DESIGN of the two new airships is such that it can be modified for producing a commercial airship capable of carrying mail and passengers over long routes. The helium-filled ship with its component parts nearly all located inside the hull makes possible a far more comfortable passenger Zeppelin than any heretofore produced. The Graf Zeppelin is absolutely superior to



Structural work on the new ship gives rise to the ZRS-4.



VARIOUS ARRANGEMENTS OF AIRSHIP LIFTING-GAS AND FUEL-GAS CELLS

Fig. 1—Cross Section Through Cells of the Graf Zeppelin, Showing Fuel Gas Cells Located in the Hull and Fuel Gas Cells at the Side.

Fig. 2—Alternative Arrangement with Fuel Gas Cells Below and at the Side of the Lifting Gas Cell and Fuel Gas Cells at the Side.

Fig. 3—Arrangement with Fuel Gas Cells Located in the Hull and Fuel Gas Cells at the Side of the Hull.

THE STANDARDIZATION OF

Airplane Wheels

By JOHN R. CAUTLEY

U. S. A. Recommended Practice Tire Dimensions

From the report of a U. S. Army Officers advised by the Army Board, 1931

Wheel Size	Roll Diameter	Nose	Landing Gear	Tire	Rim Diameter	Tire Width	Tire Depth	Tire Weight
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0

THEY are obviously common standardization on tires, which is equally important. What then does such standardization mean, if properly done? In general terms it may mean the difference between profit and loss on the enterprise, and in military, the difference between winning and losing a campaign.

For both civil and military work, simplification of equipment is vital to success, but how does standardization attain that end? To quote the classic example of the

results of no standardization, the Americans are comparing were making up sizes of balloons (passenger tires) during the first two years of the change over from the high pressure type. Now the industry has standardized and the total range of sizes is 18. One is privy to the opinion that this standard might be further reduced if it were not for the varied interests of some very large car producers. The U. S. Air Service has standardized five sizes of tires for their needs and these five sizes are only four sizes used! In the same range, the Palace Tire Company in England lists nine standard tire sizes, and 38 axle diameters and length combinations.

The S. A. E. standard wheel and tire sizes show 16 sizes of tires, from 10 x 3 to 36 x 14, with 8 axle combinations. In the same range, i. e., from 10 x 3 to 36 x 14, but 39 tire sizes and 46 axle combinations! It is true that a number of these are simply different lengths for a given axle diameter.

In the United States there is only one type of tire used that being the drop center, while in England there

are two, the drop center and the clincher, which are not interchangeable on the wheels.

It may seem hardly necessary to argue the case, but for the sake of clarity consider what one size wheel and tire, with the necessary covens, means:

1. It means that at least three wheel companies must make hubs, produce a stock and provide supplies for service all over the U. S. and in Canada. In addition, if the same wheel is for military purposes also, spaces must be sent as far as the Philippines.

2. At least four tire companies must make molds, then tubes, and finally distribute four sets of stocks at least over Continental North America.

It would seem, therefore, that the case for simplification is proved if the standards are correct and provide a range of sizes which will not handicap the designer by necessitating a larger wheel or axle than he needs.

In this country it is believed that the present range of standards covers the designer's needs with small enough steps for all practical purposes.

In the presentation of the case for rational standardization, it could not be made complete without a concrete example. In the case of wheels and tires the standards developed quite naturally, if not quite logically, from the needs of military aircraft.

In 1926 the only standards in existence were the U. S. A. C. specifications for wheels without brakes and the complementary A. M. specifications, which were the same. These were dictated by military requirements and developed from experience with wire wheels. The sizes covered the military range and were from 30x2 to 36x12. Even at that time, the Air Corps had proved that the straight axle tire was superior to the clincher, and thus removed one problem of standardization.

In 1927 the commercial airplane industry began to make steel felt. There were no standards save the military. Commercial makers began using the military standards with dimensions due to surplus war stocks and the tire companies in addition received requests for quantities on 28 sizes of tires smaller than 30x2.

During that year the Tire and Rim Association, which represents all the tire, rim and wheel manufacturers, formed an active committee to try to lay out a reasonable range of sizes and whereto. At the same time, a similar committee of the S. A. E. became more active.

That committee had members on the Tire and Rim Association and that made co-operation easy. The Army-Sixty standards committee was invited to join in the work, and did so. In general, the military and civilian requirements were found to be fundamentally the same. Airplane manufacturers showed a willingness to come into

There is, perhaps, no member of the American aeronautic industry better qualified to write on the ever important subject of airplane wheel and tire standardization than Mr. Cautley who now holds the position as engineer with the Bendix Brake Company. For a number of years Mr. Cautley has been a most active member of the committee of the Society of Automotive Engineers in charge of wheel and tire standardization. He is also thoroughly familiar with standardization developments in the military services, and what he has to relate should be of considerable interest to all members of the industry

line, and as a result the S. A. E. recommended practices for airplane wheels cover tire sizes, overruns, inflation pressures for loads up to maximum, and standard values for all tires. The maximum required radial and side load strengths were set up for wheels, as well as rim profiles, and developed from a definite set of reasons. Finally, wheel, hub and axle dimensions were set up for a complete range of wheels for both land and airframe bearings. That in two years it has been possible to bring about a complete set of recommended practices which embrace military and civilian requirements.

No one knew explicitly what was required! Everyone knew that a trial was better than no trial at all. It is believed that a good blind trial has been made. It may be followed by a standards road, but it will also be necessary to blaze another trail to keep the low pressure roads from making a cyclone of paths through the woods, in which the engineers will become hopelessly lost.

THE PRESENT recommended practice comes after two years' experience with the general type of tire, not, incidentally said. No one had any real experience with low-pressure tires. But, they have their place, and they may easily supersede the present tire, as the balloon did the high pressure in the automobile.

However, it must be remembered that the automobile balloon of today is not the balloon as it was originally introduced—cut by 25 lb. pressure and two to four ply of fabric in the casing. It is much the same with the low-pressure tire.

The "Halloway tire" should not be used to upgrade all others for it can not. It should be used as a basis for a tire which will give the maximum of advantage inherent in low pressure with a minimum of the heavy drawbacks.

As another evidence of the value of standardization in the right manner and ahead of production, attention is drawn to the recommended practice of the S. A. E. for roller-bearing wheels. That recommended practice, which was entirely in advance of the use of roller-bearing wheels on airplanes, is largely ahead of real production

Tire Size	Wheel Size	Roll Diameter	Nose	Landing Gear	Tire	Rim Diameter	Tire Width	Tire Depth	Tire Weight
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
100 x 8	30.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0

*From Nos. 100, 101, 102 and 103 of all other sizes than the above which for 100x20 tires.

From the committee on tire standardization on all wheels.

©-103

Roller-bearing wheels without liners are feasible, but roller-bearing wheels with liners are of great value, as they not only reduce the length of take-off by an appreciable percentage, but they increase the ease of handling of the plane on the ground to an enormous degree. In addition, they require no economy in axle, wheel and brake which results in an operating mechanism which can be adjusted slowly and will consequently be powerful and slow to wear.

That recommended practice is the result of over two and a half years of aggressive and conscientious research on the wheel makers and the bearing makers. Until this recommended practice was evolved, there were no bearings made light enough to be satisfactory for this job. Now the aeronautical industry has available a series of what it is hoped will be standard bearings, produced by more than one manufacturer, for the specific purpose for which they are used.

This purpose may be summarized by stating that these bearings are designed to operate satisfactorily under a maximum crushing load with a maximum of weight in the bearings, and a minimum of diameter. The wear factor, which is so large a proportion of the weight in the normal anti-friction bearings, has been cut to a minimum, as the hours of use of an airplane wheel during the life of a plane are but a small fraction. An actual saving in wheel weight of nearly 12 per cent has resulted from this special study.

This recommended practice for roller-bearing wheels may not be, and probably is not, the last word, but it represents again a start along definite lines which will reduce the cost of development enormously because it will at least direct efforts along a reasonably logical path. It should be brought out that the revised standards which were approved by the tire people, as well as everyone else, are based on a definite and logical procedure. It has been found in practice that tires can be made to operate satisfactorily on runs having a ledge width of 30 per cent of the normal width of the tire. Based on this assumption, all wheels have been designed with a width which does not overstate beyond the standard. That is to say, a 32x3 wheel will operate satisfactorily with a 32x3 tire but will not be guaranteed to operate satisfactorily with a 36x8 tire.

One of the more difficult design to standardize is the maximum load allowable on a given size of wheel. It is believed that wheels should be designed for the normal use of tire to be mounted upon them. This allows an increase in tire size of 10 per cent above the standard size of tire to give an extra margin of safety. Also, as a last warning, it provides for the case where the designer's estimate has been optimistic and the plane in production is somewhat overweight and needs heavier tires as original equipment. That is an emergency measure, however, and must be corrected as soon as possible, even at the cost of scrapping some axle tubing. It is sometimes argued that a wheel should be built strong enough to handle the full load allowable on the over-size tire.

That is fallacious for two reasons. First, because if a wheel were so strengthened, designers would attempt to use it as standard equipment with the over-size tires. That is a special case which would attempt to double over-size, which would not be satisfactory. As an example: There might be a plane built to weigh 3,000 lb gross. Such a plane requires 32x3 tires. If the 32x3 wheel were built to handle a 1,600 lb load, the designer would use 10x3 tires on the 32x3 wheel. That is this

wheel would not mount 32x3 tires satisfactorily and for many conditions this tire might be needed. Second, because of the strengthening of the wheel, the weight would increase. So would the brake size, as increased brake power would be required to meet the weight carrying ability. The net result would be brute force in weight and a wheel which would not mount on over-size tire.

It is easier to promote rather than retard development, and it is already being made of wheels beyond the large end of the scale, with a view to determining what the next larger size or size should be.

At the present moment, the so-called "doughnut" tire or "air wheel," which might also be called the "ball-bearing" tire is causing a tremendous amount of interest among pilots and those among engineers. It would appear that this type of tire has some very great advantages, especially for lift wheels where minimum diameter for maximum power of rotation is of vital importance. This type of tire presents the next major standardization project. Is it going to be used in its extreme form as now presented by at least one company, or is it going to be modified as has been the case with most innovations? The main thing is to see that there is an intelligent collection and summing up of the elements so that a new standard, for it will surely have to be, is evolved for axle diameters, axle web dimensions, hub lengths, etc. And that these new standards, when they are developed, bear a reasonable relation to the present standards for wheels now in use.

No designer with a real need, which he can support with a logical engineering argument, need feel that he cannot persuade the wheel and tire manufacturers to modify or extend existing standards.

A standard, in the American automotive industry, of which airplanes are a part, is a tool to be worked with or discarded, not an idol to be made sacred and never dropped without logic or thought.

Setting a standard in American standards is a hard job to do, but it is to be reasoned if they can be filled full of holes. Standards are set up for the economic advantage of an industry and unless they can prove their worth they should be and are discarded.

In the latest sciences such as physics, basic laws or standards are set up but usually a long time, until later research proves the necessity for modification. In industry, especially the newer ones such as aeronautics, standards are set up as suggestions of the direction of economic manufacture and maintenance. Modulate standards is as dangerous as indicate it is so in government. On the other hand, absolute conformity and fear of change are even worse.

The automobile industry in America has proved the value of fluid standards actively administered and watched over. It has proved equally clearly the fact that if standards are set up which are ill advised, or ahead of their time they will not be used. Cancellation of poor standards is as important as the framing of proper ones. Flexibility on the standard system is a new era in itself and if they are to regulate, they are a most important part of the economic structure, leading reductions in costs which are vital to success. If they are kept alive as in the case of less happily stated government agencies than those for air, they are a head cap which is sometimes almost fatal.

Let us standardize in a final manner and advance it not in solid manner and easily. Let us truly standardize and progress.

OPERATIONS OF THE NAVY'S Safest Squadron

*An Account of the Flying Activities of the Unit Which Won the
Schrift Memorial Trophy for 1929 With a Record of
8159 Hr. 35 Min. in the Air and Only
Three Minor Accidents*

By LIEUT. COMDR. WILLIAM MASSEK
Operations Officer, Naval Air Station, San Diego, Calif.

WHEN the trophy committee, governing the award of the Herbert Schrift memorial trophy, made the announcement in 1928, that it had decided to discontinue the annual award to the naval aviator who flies the greatest amount of hours without accident, and in the future would award the trophy to the squadron or unit making the best record for safety during the year, officers in charge of training squadrons VLS-3-3-11 at the Naval Air Station, San Diego, Calif., decided to compete. During the year following, pilots of the squadron made 26,010 flights for a total of 571,180 miles or 8159.35 hr. with only three minor accidents.

Operations of the squadron have been coordinated under the leadership of Lieut. T. G. Fisher, squadron commander, in a manner always looking forward to the utmost safety for pilots and students, both in the air and on the ground. It is difficult to over-emphasize the extreme care necessary in conducting operation of any flying unit, whether it be in military or civil service. It is possibly more risky than any form of flying because here you have untrained pilots at the controls during many hours.

The factors guiding both the policy and conduct of the squadron have enabled us to attain the record which proved sufficient to win the Schrift trophy. They are as follows:

- 1.—No person, either officer or enlisted man, not physically qualified is accepted for instruction.
- 2.—Careful and routine inspection of all planes and engines causes highest performance.
- 3.—Careful supervision of flying causes obedience to commands.
- 4.—Obedience to observation of air rules and regulations helps insure safety both in the air and on the ground.
- 5.—Thorough indoctrination in all existing air rules,

both local and general, avoid any excuse of ignorance on the part of students.

6.—Careful analysis and study of the causes of previous accidents enable us to avoid future accidents.

THIS past season we accepted both officer and enlisted student aviators. The course is not designed to make students but only to test candidates and recommend those successful for further training at Pensacola. Both the officers and enlisted men undergo practically the same training. Each student, with the exception of his first two flights (each of 45 minutes which are extended only to ten-minute hours with the NV training plane and the functions of standards) flies one hour daily with his instructor.

At the end of the student's fifteenth hour the instructor either approves him for further training or reports him withdrawn. There is a double check system given the student an excellent opportunity to demonstrate whether or not his instructor's report is correct. Each student has two sets of three opportunities to prove his ability and adapt ability. If either his instructor or the chief instructor reports him withdrawn, a third officer votes him up for a check flight and the third vote is final. Under certain exceptional cases the student may be given additional hours of instruction. Those who pass the check solo for two hours and then report for their surface section or are assigned for further air training. We follow a chain instruction system with enlisted men receiving one each week from the Great Lakes and the San Diego Naval Training Station, with a total hour of 27 minutes each involving instruction at one time. Officers from the fleet come to us at intervals of five to six weeks in classes of 30.

Training for the fleet officers is voluntary. Graduates of the naval academy are required to undergo the course during their first year. Whether they go on for advance

training is their own decision. Any officer in naval aviation may be relieved and reassigned for duty with a surface unit on his request.

STUDENTS attached to the "Schiff Squadron," as it has been termed recently, operate from restricted areas under congested flying conditions. While the traffic lanes are well marked out and observed, and while the students carry on their training flights from Brown field, situated 10 miles from North Island, they encounter between the two points other planes from the Naval Air Station, Fleet Air, the Ames Marine Corps, from Ryan Airport, from Lindbergh field and those flying along commercial lines between San Diego and Mexico. To date there have been no difficulties involved in this congested flying since no naval aviator or aviation pilot assigned at the Naval Air Station is permitted to make a flight until he has certified in writing that he has read the rules of the road for aircraft and the flight instructions published in the Bureau of Aeronautics manual. Naval Air Station flight rules governing local flights and special orders issued from time to time by the Bureau of Aeronautics concerning the flight operations of certain aircraft.

The flight instruction methods and routine followed in this squadron might well be applied to any civilian school. Each group of students hears first an address from the operations officer, then a talk by Capt. Frank R. McCrory, commanding officer of the Naval Air Station. Captain McCrory insists that each student exert his best efforts as a matter of pride and for his personal safety whether he continues flying or abandons aviation at the end of the course. Each student is told that no

partiality will be shown but that he should feel no regret should he be not recommended for advanced training. Some individuals, it is explained to him, are not adapted to the exacting duties of an aviation pilot or naval aviator, just as some persons cannot become mechanics.

During the Schiff competition each instructor flew approximately four hours each day, devoting one hour to each student. The student began his flying immediately with no previous ground instruction. His indoctrination flying served adequately as a substitute. Both officers and enlisted men presently had had certain training previously deemed civilian students. Thus, of course, rules, ground instruction unnecessary in the Navy, where in civilian schools it may be important.

The instruction is designed to produce two results: safety in the air, and the winning out of the unit. Six officer pilots and 30 enlisted pilots give the instruction. All flying is done with 36 NV training planes powered with Wright J-3 engines, with eight pilots in reserve. Stunting is not permitted. The aim is the only so-called stunt and this is undertaken only to give the student experience in recovering from this maneuver.

NUMERICAL rank of the success of the squadron has been due to the related ground personnel who keep the planes and engines in shape for flying. One mechanic, known as a plane captain, and one assistant one for each plane. Before and after each flight these men check carefully all observable parts and reject any plane not fit for flying. Before each flight the pilot also examines the plane and accepts or rejects it. Immediately after each flight the pilot on landing reports to the officer in charge and enters on the flight inspection form over his signature a



Left to Right: Capt. Frank R. McCrory, commanding officer, North Island Naval Air Station; Lt. Col. William Chubb, operations officer; Lt. Col. John V. Fisher, commanding officer "Schiff Squadron."

brief statement as to the conditions and performance of the plane in flight.

Each week the planes undergo thorough inspection and the plane captains with their assistants break down all parts and conduct a top inspection of both engine and plane. It has been the squadron's policy, no more than 1000 hours and engines after approximately 400 h. in the air. The engines go to overhaul either if they show any sign of weakness. Each engine not in daily use is turned over by hand at least once and a half revolutions every day and after the overhaul or a change of the power plant each plane is flown two hours in the immediate vicinity of the Naval Air Station. Reasons for that are obvious.

Throughout the country places often are damaged by lack of care in running them in and out of hangars, by too rapid approach to ship ways or operation lines, and by the inexperienced of pilots in maneuvering them on the ground. Wherever possible, one individual should supervise the running of planes in and out of hangars. We have followed this rule and it has avoided more than one potential crash up.

On flying fields as little ground maneuvering as possible should be done and this very slowly. Our pilots always bear in mind the damage that may be caused by propeller blast to other planes in the rear of the operating line and they too fly slowly. The fact that the three accidents occurring to planes of our squadron during the year occurred on the ground demonstrates very well the advisability of pilots keep on the lookout for other planes in the air and on the field as then proceeding as directly as possible to their take-off position, or in any other maneuver on the ground.

During our training of 475 students (of whom 157 were qualified for further training) the only damage to planes was as follows:

One plane suffered a badly bent center section strut, the leading edge of the lower left wing was cut six inches and the upper wing was strained. Another plane suffered a broken wheel and a bent propeller blade. During a collision between two planes of the squadron the left wing of one was damaged in the outboard section and the blade bent, while the other plane suffered damage to the left wings. In none of these cases was a pilot or student injured.

Award of the Schiff trophy to a squadron with a high safety record we believe to be of more value than such an award to an individual aviator. This permits enlargement of the competition. All flying done by our squadron was routine training work pointing toward a purpose other than winning the trophy. It is impossible that any individual pilot should continue year after year flying more than 1000 h. yearly in an effort to win the award. On the other hand squadron competition is of such a nature that individual pilots will not attempt to pile up hours in an attempt to capture the trophy.

TO BE ELIGIBLE for the Schiff trophy each squadron or unit must fly a minimum of 1000 h. Each unit receives a penalty for every accident occurring during the competing year. The weight of the penalty varies in accordance with the degree of injury received by pilots and students and by the degree of damage received by material.

A handicap is assigned to various squadrons in order to equalize the difference in the duties they perform. Factors considered in working out the modified formula by which the winning squadron is determined, include the number of persons who received major injuries, those who received serious injuries, those who received fatal injuries, the number of accidents which resulted in injury and easily replaced damage, those resulting in damage requiring replacement of the plane, those requiring a major overhaul, and those requiring replacement of a major unit of the plane. These factors are depicted, in one set considering accidents not resulting from carrier or catapult operation, the other in those which result from carrier or catapult operation. Of course, the total flying time of any unit is one of the most important determining factors.

The Schiff trophy, it will be recalled, is a beautiful silver cup surmounted by an eagle and bearing the outline of a flying boat. It differs from other trophies in that the award is based on a year-round performance in lieu of day and is not based on competitive racing or stunts at records. The Navy considers it a most important award and recent annual analyses of accidents in the navy and marine corps indicate that the trophy encourages the type of flying found to be safest and improves the flying technique of competing aviators.



The "Schiff Squadron" winner of the Schiff Memorial Trophy for 1929 on parade.

REGULATING Air Commerce

ARTICLE IV — ENFORCEMENT

By E. MCD. KINTZ.

Chief, Legal Division,
Aeronautics Branch,
Department of Commerce

THE AIR COMMERCE ACT of 1926 places within the jurisdiction of the Department of Commerce, the regulation of interstate commerce by air. Air commerce, as defined by the Act, means transportation in whole or in part by aircraft of persons or property for hire, navigation of aircraft in the furtherance of a business, or navigation of aircraft from one place to another for operation in the conduct of a business. Interstate or foreign air commerce means air commerce between any state, territory, or possession, or the District of Columbia, and any place outside thereof, or between points within the same state, territory, or possession, or the District of Columbia, but through the air space over any place outside thereof, or wholly within the air space over any territory, or possession, or the District of Columbia.

Any plane or person engaged in interstate air commerce is required to be licensed by the Department. Mention of a few of the examples of interstate traffic which necessitate a license may set the reader loose.

Two flying fields are established in Virginia, just across the river from Washington, D. C. The majority of the flights are sightseeing hops over the District of Columbia, no landing being made thereon. Yet that is interstate air commerce due to the fact that it is between points within the same state, but through the air space over the District of Columbia.

Another instance, as furnished in the case of a plane operated for hire within the state of Virginia and flown to the state of Maryland over the week-end to be operated weekly within Maryland in carrying passengers on short hops. This is interstate air commerce even though no passengers or property are carried for hire on the flight between the two states. This is a case wherein the plane is navigated from one state to another for operation in the conduct of a business, namely, that of carrying passengers for hire.

Another example: a plane is being flown between points in different states displaying advertising matter on the plane, such as "The A. B. Plough Company." The display of advertising is in furtherance of the business of the "A. B. Plough Company." Even though no passengers or property are carried for hire on such flights, it is nevertheless engaged in interstate air commerce.

A plane is purchased by a corporation and is flown

between points in different states, carrying executives or employees of the company for conferences or for sales purposes. This is regarded as being in the conduct or furtherance of a business. Moreover, if the pilot is employed on a salary basis, such flights could only be made by a transport pilot as such passengers would be deemed to be passengers for hire, because the pilot is paid a salary for carrying them.

Under the present Act, no jurisdiction has been granted the Department to regulate flights which are wholly intrastate, except that the Air Traffic Rules apply to all flights whether they are commercial, non-commercial, pleasure, interstate or intrastate, and whether the plane is licensed or unlicensed. It should be obvious that all flights must adhere to a standard and uniform set of regulations, namely, the Federal Air Traffic Rules.

The Legal Section handles the legal phases of enforcing the Air Commerce Regulations as well as investigation of violations of the Air Commerce Act of 1926, the Air Commerce Regulations, and the Air Traffic Rules. It prepares the assessment of penalties and acts in a general advisory capacity in all matters pertaining to air law.

This enforcement, however, is accomplished through the diligence and tact of the field inspectors operating throughout the United States. Many of the violations occur near the Washington Office but are covered in such a manner by the field force that there is no necessity for any other action.

The Section, in its legal capacity, acts on such matters as commenting on proposed state or municipal laws relating to aeronautics, amendments to the Air Commerce Regulations, foreign requirements compelling state aeronautical laws, interpretation of the regulations and hearings on the denial, suspension or revocation of licenses. It is more or less a clearing house for problems pertaining to the legal side of aeronautics, but from a practical aeronautical viewpoint rather than a strict legal one.

In connection with its enforcement duties, we can elucidate our work by taking several examples of complaints or violations and following them to a conclusion.

A letter is received from an indignant citizen to the effect that his Sunday morning rest was disturbed by a plane flying so low over his house that it almost

knocked the chimney down. He complains that this happens every Sunday, starting about 6 a.m. Will we please stop such operations? The letter usually ends by saying that he thoroughly believes in aeronautics but does not think he should be annoyed in this fashion.

Such a complaint may or may not be a violation, and several conditions must be considered. Is the first place the regulations provided that "Exclusive of taking-off flows, or landing on, an established landing field, airport, or on property designated for that purpose by the owner, and except as otherwise permitted by Section 7A, aircraft shall not be flown:

"1. Over the congested parts of cities, towns, or settlements, except at a height sufficient to permit of a reasonably safe emergency landing, which in no case shall be less than 1,000 ft.

"2. Elsewhere at a height less than 500 ft., except where indispensable to an industrial flying operation."

Section 7A also states, referring to deviations from Air Traffic Rules:

"The air-traffic rules may be deviated from when

In this fourth of a series of six articles on the licensing and inspection activities and work of the Aeronautics Branch, Mr. Kintz writes in detail of the work of the Legal Section. The task of enforcing air regulations is by no means an easy one, and often calls for considerable diplomacy by the Section heads. Some of the problems encountered and the procedure followed in handling them are contained in this authoritative and interesting article. The fifth article, appearing in an early issue, is by Dr. L. H. Bauer and Dr. H. J. Cooper, and deals with the work of the Medical Section.

special circumstances render a departure necessary to avoid immediate danger or avert a disaster, or when it is required because of stress of weather conditions or other unavoidable cause."

IT IS USUALLY the case that the complainant lives in close proximity to a flying field. The low flying is generally the result of taking off and landing, and his house, due to wind conditions, happens to be directly in the line of flight. Upon referring to the statute quoted it is obvious that there has been no violation, and, consequently, the Department can take no action to prevent such flights. If the complainant does not live adjacent to a flying field, it may be that a pilot has been forced to fly low because of fog or rising smoke. In such a case, too, there is no violation and there probably will never be further complaint.

In either of the cases, the complainant is advised that no investigation will be made and appropriate action taken. The inspecting inspector for the territory involved is sent a copy of the complainant's letter with instructions from the Chief of the Inspection Service to investigate and report. When the case is similar to the first example, an inspector usually makes a personal call on the writer of the letter and takes with him the operations manager of the field. They explain conditions and, if possible, work out a solution that will prevent further annoyance.

In the second example, there is usually no action



The Department of Commerce already inspects districts of the United States

which can be taken except to explain the circumstances to the complainant and assure him that, in the event of persistent violations which can be substantiated, a formal violation report will be filed and penalty assessed.

Both of these cases are processed upon no information having been furnished regarding the numbers displayed on the plane. In the event the Department is advised of the numbers displayed, the owners and pilot are asked, either by letter or by an inspector in person, for an explanation. This is checked against the facts found by the inspector as a result of his investigation.

In any case, where the inspector has found that there has been a violation, he renders a formal report to the Department substantiated by sufficient evidence. There upon the penalty (prescribed by law) is assessed.

IN ANY COMPLAINT made to this Department, the numbers displayed on the plane in question must be given as this is practically the only means we have of establishing the identity of the violator. If the reader were involved in an automobile accident and proceeded to the nearest police station to report a violation, you can well imagine what the desk sergeant would probably say when, in answer to his question, "What was the license number?" you said "I don't know, I didn't get it."

When an inspector has investigated a violation and

submitted a formal report as a form provided for that purpose, it is checked by this Section from a legal standpoint in order that the Department can be assured of the assessment withstanding a public hearing. Like any other violation of law, sufficient evidence must be

Table 1. Air Commerce Act violations and action taken for the period from July 5, 1936 to July 1, 1937

	Probation	Fines	Revocations	Reinstatements	Producers
Unlicensed Pilot	17	14	1	1	\$1,800.00
Unlicensed pilot flying	17	14	1	1	1,800.00
Plane without lights	5	0	1	1	140.00
Plane without owner's license	4	4	1	1	150.00
Plane without pilot's license	140	137	48	4	\$1,140.00
Totals	183	165	55	7	\$3,230.00

Minor Violations

Problems assessed	26
Excessive speed	10
Excessive altitude	12
Excessive noise	14
Unlicensed pilot	11
Plane without lights	11
Plane without owner's license	11
Plane without pilot's license	11
Total penalties assessed	\$24.00

presented at least to make out a *prima facie* case. If a *prima facie* case is made out the violator is notified that he is subject to a civil penalty fixed by the Air Commerce Act at \$500 for each offense, and is usually given fifteen days in which to file affidavits in substantiation of his report for mitigation or exoneration. Upon receipt of his request, the supporting evidence is weighed against that submitted by the inspector and other witnesses. If the evidence does not justify exoneration, he is notified that, a certified check is forwarded in sums varying from \$45 up to \$500 to be submitted to the Secretary of Commerce with the recommendation that the civil penalty be mitigated to the sum suggested and the check accepted in full payment. It may be that the evidence substantiated calls for further investigation, whereupon the file is forwarded to the particular inspector for further investigation and recommendation. Upon return to the Section, the procedure outlined is followed.

Where flagrant, willful, or second offenses are committed, the very nature of which make them potential accidents, it has been the policy to suspend or revoke the pilot's license. No such action is taken, however, until a thorough investigation has been made and the Department is confident that such action would be confirmed in the event a public hearing was demanded. The pilot is generally notified that his license is suspended beginning ten or fifteen days from receipt of notification. This permits him to present his side of the case. The evidence is reviewed, as in the former cases, and recommendations made to the Secretary for confirmation of the suspension, mitigation or reinstatement.

In the foregoing, the term "Public Hearing" has

several times been mentioned. It is believed that a vast majority of persons outside the Department have no conception of the purpose or meaning of this right granted by Section 3-4 of the Air Commerce Act. Briefly, this Section gives a person his "day in court" upon the denial, mitigation or revocation of any certificate issued in pursuance of the Act. It is to insure any applicant or holder of a license or certificate of the right of appeal to the Secretary should arbitrary action be taken by any subordinate.

To return to violations, the following may be of interest as indicative of some of the types involved.

Among annual complaints received are some to the effect that planes of a certain company are continually flying over and spraying the complainant with acid, that aviators flying over the house are causing electric current to enter the body of the complainant and thus inflicting considerable pain, burning the clothes and filling the house with electric sparks, that certain pilots were flying close to the bathroom window during the bathing hour and acting as "Aerial Peeping Toms." In the latter instance the latter did not obtain the number of the plane and there was nothing we could do. In such cases, investigations have disclosed no violations. If anyone is annoyed in cases similar to the latter it would seem in order to suggest that a little forethought in pulling down the shade would suffice and obviate the necessity of an official investigation which might become embarrassing to all concerned.

We have also been called upon to compel pilots to pay for damages to cattle or crops. This, too, is obviously beyond our jurisdiction.

There have been anonymous complaints which, upon investigation, have been found to be unwarranted and due to personal animosity. Naturally, no action was taken in the majority of such cases.

Regardless of the character or method of complaint, all are given due consideration and are thoroughly investigated by competent and careful field inspectors. An endeavor is made to satisfy all concerned in a manner which would best serve the interests of the public and the industry.

Table 1 shows violations and action taken for the period from July 5, 1936 to July 1, 1937.

THIS DEPARTMENT is frequently called upon for a digest of all the court decisions relating to aviation, particularly to be used in preparing cases for trial in district courts. Obviously, the Section cannot act as legal adviser to persons other than those in the Aeronautics Branch, or else we would constantly become involved in all sorts of controversies. While it is not in order to recommend any particular publication, nevertheless, due to the number of volumes on this subject, those interested will find such a compilation of decisions from 1822 to 1936 in "United States Aviation Reports" published at 1215 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Md.

Some of the legal questions involved are:

Liability of owner or operator for damage.

Liability of owner for accidents over field.

What status require certificate of public necessity and convenience?

What status require license and what types?

If operating wholly within one state what is necessary?

What are the Federal requirements to engage in interstate air commerce?

What state laws affect aeronautics?

A suggested draft of desirable uniform state law on aeronautics has been prepared and is available from the Department upon request. A majority of the states have enacted desirable legislation, but our latest information is that some eight states have yet to enact regulatory laws on this subject.

Hardly a day goes by that we do not receive a letter requesting advice as to where a plane may be flown without any type of license. The address of the inquirer readily gives the reason for the request, which is that the state of residence now requires a license, thus necessitating removal to those states which do not require licenses. Those states having a uniform regulatory legislation will soon find themselves overrun with unscrupulous aircraft and inexperienced pilots to the detriment and safety of the citizen.

The following is a list of the states having regulatory aeronautical laws, with the type of license required, and those having no laws.

Federal licenses required for all aircraft and airmen

Alaska	Michigan	South Dakota
Arizona	Mississippi	Texas
California	Minnesota	Vermont
Colorado	Montana	Washington
Illinois	New Mexico	Wisconsin
Indiana	North Dakota	Wyoming
Iowa	Ohio	Without such license

Federal licenses required for aircraft and airmen engaged in commercial flying

Colorado	New Jersey	Ohio
Florida	Idaho	Philadelphia
Georgia	Illinois	Virginia
Massachusetts	Missouri	West Virginia

State or Federal license required for all aircraft and airmen

Maine	Minnesota	Oregon
Marshall Islands	New Hampshire	Utah

State license required for all aircraft and airmen

Alabama	Florida	Mississippi
Connecticut	Georgia	North Carolina

No law but Public Service Commission requires Federal license for commercial operators

Alaska	Idaho	Utah
Arizona	Illinois	Virginia
California	Missouri	West Virginia

These laws should be rigidly enforced by local police officers. The Department is only too glad to assist by explaining the federal laws and regulations to meetings of such officers, and their application to the state law. Some of our inspectors have already addressed such meetings, to the mutual satisfaction and benefit of all concerned.

Presently no precedent has been established in Air Law. Consequently, legislators, lawyers, and judges will be passing in the field without an established background of legal precedent. Unless all are "air minded" and recognize the safety of this great new industry and its rapidly changing conditions, the advancement of aeronautics may be irreparably retarded.



Organizational Chart of the regulatory activities of the Department. These activities, together with advisory and research activities, are also shown separately in the Aviation Summary of Commerce for Aeronautics.

WHAT ARE THE Prospects FOR THE Present Year?

A Continuation of a Symposium by Leaders in the Industry on 1930

Merchandising Prospects and Airplane and Engine Design Trends

IN ORDER to provide an indication of the merchandising prospects and design trends in the aviation industry during the coming year, questionnaires were sent out by AVIATION to leading executives and engineers in aircraft and aircraft engine manufacturing companies, as well as to a number of other cognate authorities. Many of the replies were printed last week. However, we were fortunate enough to secure many more answers than we had space for in the special issue devoted to the St. Louis International Exposition. Most of those remaining are published herewith. The rest will appear in AVIATION next week.

Executives were asked, in substance, these questions:

1. What is the probable trend of the industry for the

coming year, as regards financial industrial organization, and the relation between design, production, and sales?

2. What will be the approximate magnitude of total production of aircraft during 1939?

3. What must be done to keep production and sales in proper relationship without allowing factory programs to become unduly seasonal?

4. What will be done to develop new markets, particularly to expand sales among true private owners?

5. What is the trend of types, of cabin and open planes, two-seaters and three-seaters, and the like, in relation to the prospective market?

Further Mergers Not Anticipated— Airlines for Executives

By JOHN C. NULSEN

General Manager, Ryan Aircraft Corp.

THIS COMING YEAR will bring the first period of intense competition in all branches of the industry. It will see the industry finally settled on a stable business basis, with all the leading companies making efforts to sell the business man and the public on the practical value of air transportation as a time and money saver.

This competition will have a healthy influence on the industry as a whole, bringing about improvements in airplane designs and general business management. It is probable that this era will see the number of companies manufacturing airplanes somewhat reduced. At the present time, the Department of Commerce has only 200 aircraft manufacturers, but the production of 20 of these companies accounted for 85 per cent of the total airplane output in 1935.

Many smaller companies will be unable to survive the competition offered by the big merged groups. It is quite likely that the coming year will bring about much further consolidation, and in general, it is believed that the twenty or so well-known independent concerns will remain on an independent basis for some time to come. The year will see scores of large corporations gain-

ing company-owned airplanes for the use of their executives and airplanes. The Detroit Aircraft Corporation recently made a survey of the business use of planes, and found that approximately 175 companies own one or more planes. This list will be increased to nearly hundreds by the end of 1939. In the comparatively near future, it is probable that companies in certain lines, which do not place airplanes at the disposal of their best salesmen, will find themselves as out of date as the saloons that were using luggers when their customers were traveling in automobiles.

In order to educate possible users of airplanes, the leading aircraft companies are employing many salesmen. Our company has recently begun to appoint an airplane dealer in every town of over 10,000 population, with factory representatives helping them to choose likely-looking prospects. The automobile dealer will undoubtedly play an important part in merchandising airplanes during the coming year.

Several of the better known companies are now offering airplanes on the deferred payment plan, and it is probable that the coming year will see more liberal terms and a more general adoption of this plan.

There is not likely to be much change in basic design of planes in the near future, but the new models which many companies are bringing out in the spring will incorporate many refinements in interior design and executive appearance. There is a marked tendency to pay

more attention to the comfort of passengers and distinctive appearance of the plane. Brilliant color schemes will probably be more generally adopted. The new planes will have a higher speed than the older models, obtained by using more powerful engines and better streamlining.

Prices cannot be reduced until production materially increases, and because of the use of more expensive materials, more complete equipment, and other refinements, airplane prices during 1939 may be higher.

The industry has passed through the stages of engineering design and financing, and in 1939 the greatest emphasis will be laid on placing airplanes and air transportation facilities in the hands of every possible user.

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Inherently Stable Airplanes—Smoother Engines—Lower Costs

By EARLE OVINGTON

Cumulative Engineer

IN GENERAL, I would like to make the following remarks as to the present situation and the course to be followed in 1939, in my way of thinking.

First, there should be a greater standardization of types, with several types entirely discarded. For instance, there are many airplanes on the market which are aerodynamically poor, with poor visibility, and bearing every mark of heavy production. In order to get into the field while the getting is good. The aviation industry has suffered from a plethora of funds and this has reacted to the detriment of the models produced.

Up to the present time, airplanes have been made for expert pilots, and there is practically no ship on the market today that is safe for any but the expert. In the smaller ships, particularly, the inherent stability is poor compared with that of the larger transport jobs. I flew a Fokker, for instance, for over four hours without touching the stick. I know of no small job with which I could have done this. And yet the inherent stability of the smaller ship shows better, if possible, than the larger one, as the former is flown by less experienced pilots.

Today, it is the aviation enthusiast who flies, and he is willing to put up with what he finds in order to gratify his desire. But the "man in the street" is a large way from accepting the airplane as he does the automobile.

Loading an airplane today under any but ideal conditions requires a degree of coordination seldom possessed by the average individual. With an inherently stable ship, fitted with wing warping whose characteristics can be altered for low landing and safety at high angles of attack, equipped with a variable pitch and reversible propeller, and with the right type of landing gear or air wheels, an inexperienced pilot should be able to practically pull back on the stick and let the ship land itself. And there should be no tendency to fall off on a wing go into a spin, or nose over without warning. And we know enough about aerodynamic design right now to produce such a ship. The demand not being evident, however, the ship is not forthcoming. We must produce the ship and then build up the demand.

High maintenance cost is another drawback which must be overcome. Small and medium size motors, particularly, of good reliability, must be available before the airplane is used to any great extent.

Not only must the motor be reduced in price, but it must be so designed that it will operate for at least a hundred hours without the attention of an expert mechanic. The most reliable motors today require such attention every ten hours at least. How much would automobiles be used if these engines required such frequent and expert attention?

Vibration in motors is another point I would like to touch on. Most of the smaller ships are fitted with motors that vibrate so that one's hand is numb after a flight of any duration. Compare such bone shakers with the smooth ones and rights in automobiles and it becomes obvious that the airplane motor has a long way yet to go. Why the air-cooled, inverted, straight line six has not come into general use as engines in more than I can understand. This would mean good visibility forward, smooth operation, good assembling characteristics, and valve mechanism that would operate in oil without two-hour servicing.

From a selling standpoint, we are not reaching the man in the street. It is an expensive ship of great reliability and high stability were available it would not be long, with the right selling methods, before we would cross the gap which now exists between the average man and the airplane. And would we bridge that gap we will have a highly specialized industry.



Earle Ovington

No Reason for Alarm

By WILLIAM O. WARNER
President Warner Aircraft Corp.

ANY ATTEMPT TO APPRAISE the aviation industry's prospects for 1959 seems to be rather difficult and would be merely a guess at this time. However, those manufacturers who have produced quality products during the past years should in our opinion enjoy a considerable increase in business.

We view the present so-called slump in the industry as nothing more than the usual seasonal recession which need be expected each year for some time to come. Past records would indicate that most manufacturers have ignored this phase entirely and there will probably be a large number who will continue to do so each year. This condition will naturally have a bad effect on the industry as a whole, and especially on the offenders.

As to the trend in design and type that will be the most popular during the coming year, we hesitate to make a guess, but feel that the St. Louis show will determine these questions.

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All First-Class Mail by Air— Stabilization Lies Just Ahead

By E. E. WILSON
President Eastern Airlines Inc.

THE TREND OF THE INDUSTRY for the coming year is toward increased operations in the transportation of mail and passengers, and increased private flying. Air transportation is definitely out of the baby stage and approaching the status of a necessity. Air mail which a short time ago was a luxury, could not now be dispensed with. The other phases of aviation will follow this line with the passage of time. The actual operations will emerge stronger than ever, and the industry as a whole will profit from stabilization.

The records of the past few years indicate a steady increase in the total production of the industry to date. There is every reason why this should continue. Almost unlimited opportunities are available. As experience increases the proper plan of automation in the general scheme, development will go ahead steadily.

At present, it is difficult to prevent factory programs from becoming unduly unbalanced. The expansion of flying activities into these parts of the world where all-season flying may take place will help to solve this problem. It is not likely to be a diversified situation but as time goes on, and certain types of aircraft engines and equipment establish their supremacy, it will be possible for factory management to plan production more intelligently, and thereby the development is being accelerated for the weak demands.

Three important lines of development appear open: (1) the expansion of air mail routes; (2) intensive development of mail and passenger routes to Latin-American countries where existing forms of transportation are not competitive; (3) expansion of private flying.

Authority already exists for extension of air mail routes. If funds were made available, this could be carried on rapidly. It seems to me that the aeronautical industry might well sponsor a program looking forward to a complete shift in the handling of mail, with a view

to speeding up all along the line. This would contemplate carrying all first class mail by air over mail lines, and speeding up the service of other classes of mail to make the improvement in service comparable. The influence of such a view on air transportation of passengers would be profound, and some method might be worked out which would not result in hardship to other carriers. In the matter of development of true private flying, it is possible that the inflation of the past year may turn out to be an advantage. Overstocks may result in reduced prices to owners with corresponding increases in private flying and with the passing of obsolete wartime equipment. This may well mean the way for significant increases in new equipment for 1959 and the years beyond.

Conferences effort intelligent planning and hard work in the year 1959 will reap adequate awards. This year appears to me to mark the transition into the stabilized period in connected activities.

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A Banner Year Ahead—More Accurate Performance Data Needed

By HENRY H. OGDEN
General Manager, Civil Aircraft Division, Cessna

IT IS A CERTAINITY that 1959 will be a banner year for the progress and development of aviation. An extensive program of expansion has been laid out not only by the government, which plans to spend over \$50,000,000 on aeronautical activities, but by the air transport systems of the country, the various schools and private flyers. This expansion program should make itself felt in all branches of the industry.

More money will be spent but it will be spent wisely and there will be less mass production schemes. The industry is learning many valuable and "old-fashioned" lessons, the introduction of impossible new types of ships by firms without adequate financial backing, although it will continue, will gradually disappear. The public has begun to realize that though all plans have wings, not all of them will fly successfully, instead money will be invested in those firms which have demonstrated a gradual and healthy growth.

The design of planes will not change radically, but there will be a decided change in the way they are designed to incorporate higher safety factors in their design and a greater degree of comfort for passengers. I believe that the year will see air mail increase to such proportions that special planes for mail only will be required, in which passengers will not be allowed to ride in the vicinity of the cargo.

A change which the industry needs, but which it probably will not get for some time, is the creation of an official source for homologating all performance data. Speed, rate of climb, cruising range and all other performance characteristics are apt at the present time to be subject to a discrepancy between the data shown in advertisements and the actual physical performance of the ship itself. If some adequate means of checkmate could be devised, somewhat similar in function, probably to the Airline Bureau of Circulation which authentic-



H. H. Ogden

ately points on magazine circulation figures, the industry as a whole would be far better off and the buying public would be protected from misrepresentation, intentional or otherwise. The trouble heretofore has been that to get a series of accurate figures it was necessary to have expensive equipment as for instance an electric timing device, and this has been out of the range of most manufacturers. Steps should certainly be taken during the forthcoming year to provide for more authoritative method of rating aircraft performance.

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Importance of Financing for Private Ownership

By A. W. POOLE
Member Aviation Division,
Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce

REPRESENTATIVES IN EDUCATION, and transportation, education or creation of new and viable markets and considerable expansion of operating enterprises—these four fields are those that will chiefly concern aeronautical aviation leaders in 1959. Perhaps the most important of these is the matter of distribution. What will be the market and how will that market be made? Expansion of operating transport enterprises and inauguration of new transport lines will of course make a market for some of our manufacturers—more and more many of them, when in operation will assist the producer of that type of aircraft.

But necessarily there must be a financial program set up either by the manufacturer or companies formed for the purpose, to assist the individual purchaser of aircraft, the private owner, or the man or woman who wants an airplane entirely for non-commercial use. There are thousands of persons in this country—yet tens of thousands—who have an eagerness to learn to fly and own their own planes, but the cost is prohibitive when it is necessary to buy the cash on the line. Therefore, that person loses the serious desire to learn to fly, knowing that after spending the time and money for instruction he or she cannot afford the purchase of a plane.

In any way in that country a man can purchase an automobile at the rate of one-third or less of the purchase price as the first payment and the balance spread over a period of twelve, eighteen or even twenty-four monthly payments. He can use and enjoy that car while paying for it, in some cases he can put the car to work to pay for itself. Why not the same with aircraft? Until such a time comes, it looks as if the manufacturer of the smaller plane, the two-, three- and four-seater, particularly, will have to stay on a curtailed production basis. It seems credible enough also, with the prices being removed for small aircraft today, that manufacturers might average through the distributor or directly to the establish outlets to which the purchaser to fly the ship he buys and at the same time sell it on the same contract plan.

The airplane manufacturer has a vehicle of transportation to sell just as the automobile manufacturer has and it is up to the airplane manufacturer to work out a satisfactory and non-commercial sales program, just as it was necessary for the automobile manufacturer to do so.

The airplane is used many ways, for express and passenger transport, mail, crop dusting, forest patrol,

wood photography, schools, scientific studies, etc., but the large demand will always be for them other than the craft for sport or non-commercial purposes. That is where the demand is now and where the manufacturer will have his outlet when the cost of the ship is what it should be, and an adequate, feasible plus of individual financing is provided.

The year 1959 should be an even more successful year than the year just ended. Vast strides have been attained, particularly in respect to passenger, express and transport. There will be many more transport lines, passenger, mail, and express, there will be a very large increase in export. But to overcome the critical stage of over-production that the industry is now suffering, some method must be devised to sell the airplane to those who wish to own one.

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Continuance of Rapid Progress Looked For

By C. O. BURCHETT

Los Angeles Manager, Aviation Aircraft Co.

THIS YEAR shows every indication of providing a satisfactory growth in aircraft production and sales over 1958. The airplane industry is now in a position to begin early, probably within about thirty days, gradually gain momentum into the summer months.

As we all know, 1958 was the big year as far as expansion in the industry was concerned. For manufacturers were able to supply their markets. They efforts to prepare themselves for the next season brought about facilities for over-production and 1959 was most of the established manufacturers heading to find an outlet for products of their factories.

Notwithstanding this condition, the aviation industry as a whole made great progress during 1958. This year will see it settling down on a solid foundation and a normal expansion of activity. There will be more airplanes sold but we are going to have to sell them.

In total production there ought to be at least twice as many airplanes sold as last year. Our industry is covering up its share of the business being more than doubled. A large number of the planes will be purchased by new users who have been conservative in adopting aviation to their own work earlier, but who are finding now that they must use it to keep their place in industrial growth.

There will be many replacements of airplanes in 1959. Especially will prevent owners of low priced planes demand more experience out. Most of the airplanes sold by our companies have gone in more as first planes. Now these new owners are wanting more power and speed. They also want color types.

These first-plane owners have been learning how to use their airplanes in more ways than one. Some of them acquired flying hours to make their report pilots. Others made money with their ships in commercial operations. Still more found that airplane travel was a distinct adjunct to their business. Having gained these experiences with airplanes of the low priced field they are going to be ready for something more comfortable, more powerful, and faster, with still greater possibilities of new uses.

The replacement tendency will, of course, throw a large number of good used airplanes on the market just

as always happens in the automobile industry. There is little probability, however, of developing a used airplane problem for some time. There is a difference: Automobiles do not depreciate as uneconomically as rapidly as automobiles. They are not safe and dependable after having worn out several seasons. Used airplanes made available through representatives will be immediately purchased by a new crop of owners who want planes but who do not feel the necessity of the greater speed and power of this year's product.

A cross section of present airplane distributor and dealer organizations shows a heavy predominance of automobile men. This is going to be good for the aviation industry because these men know how to sell transportation and because they have had lots of experience in replacing old automobiles with new ones. They have a good idea of what a used plane is worth and where it can be sold. They know enough not to become overworked in used planes and yet they will not pass up new sales without studying their prospects so remote that they would be particularly suited by such a new ship.

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Public Education and a Sales Campaign

By VICTOR H. ROOS
President, Lincoln Aircraft Co.

IN RESPONSE to your invitation for comments on the general position of the Aircraft Industry, my contribution is as follows:

As an industry, it is quite unknown because—few in the industry are making a profit. There is approximately \$100,000 invested in the industry for each airplane in commercial use.

Approximately 90 per cent of all planes, other than military types, purchased last year were taken without the industry itself. These planes were purchased by airlines, transport or mail lines, or by companies who purchased the plane with a view to further their interests in the industry or to promote aviation.

The balance of approximately 10 per cent of the airplanes that were bought (I say "bought" and not "sold") were purchased by private users for pleasure and commercial use other than those mentioned above.

There is but one airplane for every 15,000 of population in the United States and but one-half of these planes are being used to any great extent. There is little evidence that a real merchandising plan has been put in operation by any manufacturer for the sale of airplanes to the average citizen. Merchandising is educating. Until the average citizen is educated to the point of understanding the airplane, he is not ready to buy; and until the average citizen is ready to buy, the industry will remain unproductive.

As long as it is such, production, design, profits, and all connected with it will be retarded; but once there are sales, all this will be cured, as the airplane is economically sound. The average citizen is not accepting aviation as we had hoped that he would, and this is largely because of the manner in which we have gone about selling him.

Flying must be sold as a means of transportation, not as a luxury asset to be taken part in by but a few dare-devils. The slowness and progress of the industry lies in our hands. I suggest that the manufacturers and operators, as a whole, use a concentrated, collective,

cooperative method to educate the public to the practicability of the airplane. Remove the mystery from aviation and teach the business and professional men, who can afford to buy and own airplanes, to fly.

This will be done in a convenient, economical and businesslike manner, and this training must be brought to their very door if we are to have in purchase in any quantity. The airplane industry needs the confidence of the average citizen, and this will be obtained only by conducting flying exhibitions in a businesslike manner, with regularly established prices, and without radical and spasmodic declines.

It is the writer's opinion that sales this year will probably total 15 per cent more than in 1929, and this increase will be almost entirely due to purchases for non-commercial uses such as training and sport.

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Benefits of Mergers

By F. H. RUSSELL
President, Corbin Aircraft Co., New C.

THE DEVELOPMENT of commercial aviation in 1930 will doubtless follow along the lines of the industry's experience in the year just past. The strengthening of the industry through the grouping together of a number of one organizations will begin to become evident about all lines of endeavor. The engineer will have the benefit of more space and widespread counsel to lead him to meet in his new designs the crystallized demand of the operator and user. The manufacturer will find a market for the new material better sought through quantity purchase to meet his requirements at a lower price, and individual units will be able to specialize in particular types of ships, thereby increasing production and decreasing cost.

The binding up of chains of flying fields under central control will stabilize and regularize emergency service, serving the public more efficiently and economically. The operating passenger lines will doubtless reduce their fares and look for increased revenue through increased use of their facilities by the public, and it is to be hoped that their standards may be consolidated with one another so as to make air travel more economical. I believe the development in every phase of aviation in the coming year will be on a more permanently progressive and safer basis than that of the year just past.

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Export Chances

By THOMAS W. SIMMONS
President, American Aircraft Division, Ford Co.

THE AVIATION INDUSTRY has paid fairly to learn the inevitable. Last year brought technological changes. Everybody talked in big figures, hundreds of millions were dumped into the industry's coffers for the use of man, most of whom were little qualified by experience to handle that new power that abundant money gave them. The money was spent on all kinds of wild schemes, stock manipulators made huge fortunes for a few, and then came the realization that the industry needs business men as well as experienced aviation enthusiasts.

Now the year 1930 with a more educated agent. Large combines have been formed to reduce wastefulness

competition and duplication of effort. Real business men have been hired, eliminating waste and cut heavy overhead. They are getting to their tasks in real earnestness, analyzing, analyzing, they have set a goal and are conscientiously striving to reach it.

Because of this the industry will succeed. The immediate future holds bright prospects for the production and sale, not of tens of thousands of planes, but of a consistent increase.

To my office, as an exporter of American-made aircraft, come more than two thousand orders and letters a month from every country in the world. All express a real interest in American-made aircraft and the desire to put them to useful tools in the hands of the world's peoples.

America's surplus aircraft, and now they number in the hundreds, must be exported. The far reaches of the world are fast awakening to the utility of aircraft. Surface conditions make other means of transportation impracticable. They look to the sky for the fastest, most efficient and modern method of transportation. Here there are no highways to build, no expensive rails to lay, and the airplane company's members are direct, hard and sure, to inaugurate a new era in foreign trade.

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Better Outlook For Private Owner Sales

By R. L. BARNETT
Director of Airports, Los Angeles, Calif.

I BELIEVE THAT the aviation industry is now going through a general readjustment and the near future will see closer coordination between production and marketing, with lower price levels reached, at which time the sale of planes to private owners will be materially stimulated. Prospective buyers are now carefully looking over the market, and when satisfaction of the business brings about lower production and maintenance costs this type of owner will be one of the chief factors in the aviation picture.

Expensive and business capital are bringing about increased efficiency in production, marketing, and operating methods, and before the end of the year I look for the industry to be on a much improved basis.

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Sober Financing—Business Management by Business Men

By O. E. SZERKELY
President, Luskey Aircraft Co., Eugene, Ore.

TO MY MIND there can be but one more in the financial contribution of the industry is general, including the various organizations, and affecting them both individually and collectively, and that is toward sound financing without overcapitalization.

I know that the spring is over and that there is no more to be had, during the past year we found the old saying of "Easy come, easy go" well illustrated. This also affected not only organizations, but the product itself by its design, because the easy manner in which finances were acquired permitted as easy manner of getting the product before the public, and the easy manner with which the product was so produced was such

that public representation was not made by quality but, unfortunately, by quantity.

In regard to sales, may I not call attention to the inquiry methods, rather unbusinesslike, and not at all systematic. The hands of the forces, the pilots and the mechanics were seen more often than the faces of well grounded, experienced and business-like representatives.

In 1930 all of these questions will have to be definitely settled on the following lines: (a) Proportionate but substantial finance; (b) Progressive design coupled with safety and strictly for the purpose for which it is intended, rather than for as all around job, and in keeping with the foundation and reputation of the company; (c) Systematic and basic standardization of sales with leading by capable sales and business men.

It is a hardy position even to approximate production for 1930, but it does seem that 1930 will absorb all the legitimately and fundamentally correctly produced aircraft and aircraft engines, and that these products, if classified in the proper manner, will receive an open market sufficient to sustain an industry that can grow quite proportionately to the basic correctness of its product.

The products should be definitely standardized in their specific classes, for instance, training ship, sport ship, commercial ship, or air liners. By so dividing and so selling ships for the purposes for which they are needed, it will be possible to make plans about them or to operate them out of the capacities and possibilities which the particular product should reasonably offer.

Progress, advancement in design and improvements in the product compatible with the territory in which it is used and with the season during which it is to be operated seem to be the only present avenues to make it possible for business to operate in seasons at present uninteresting them to be at a standstill.

There is a very decided and definite market open for the so-called sport ship, or severely owned ships of various sizes. However, as other single factor can change this market, better than sufficient, and sound propaganda, for the absolutely correct and proper operation of planes.

A private owner using a plane for private purposes naturally demands the best, and until such time as he can feel definitely convinced that airplanes are a thing of the use, he will not accept the product.

The question of single and two-seater or three-seater ships, also the so-called open and closed types are debatable, nevertheless comparable to the rooster, coupe, two-door and four-door sedans in the present day automobile industry. The best answer is another question—What do you see most?



THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, given in slightly abbreviated form, were asked leading engineers in charge of airplane design:

1. What is the general trend of design likely to be, and in what phase is greatest progress likely to be made?
2. How much further evolution is to be expected in the design of very large planes, and what prospects are

them, too, is increasing, undoubtedly, for large planes?

2 How much increase is there likely to be in the use of aerodynamic analysis and offering departments from accepted form, such as the slotted wing?

3 Which way will the weight of lower wing in the controversy between cantilever and externally braced wing trainers?

5 Will unit wing loading continue to rise?

Higher Speed in Pursuit Types

By ARTHUR E. RAYMOND

Chief Engineer, Douglas Aircraft Company, Inc.

SEVEN times "full of the year" in New York, progress on any subject by anybody has never taken more to disprove. However, a few facts touching the aerodynamic design trend are apparent and conclusions from there appear to be reasonably safe.

The designers of military airplanes act, at present, laying more and more stress upon performance characteristics and the next twelve months should show a considerable increase in the performance of the various military types. To this end, new designs will be aerodynamically cleaner and will doubtless incorporate such factors as internal monoplane bodies and removable landing gear. Military planes have each year been incorporating more metal construction and it is generally considered that this trend will continue. Next year should see the high speed of pursuit planes well over the 200 m.p.h. mark and other types of military aircraft will not be far behind.

One of the most significant developments of the past year in the commercial field has been the growing interest in gliding. The experience gained and optimum developed through this channel should lead to greater appreciation of the advantages of low wing-loading and greater interest in the light airplane. Just as development of military airplanes is being affected by demands for performance, so will the development of commercial airplanes be affected by the demand for safety. Low landing speed, increased control at stalling angles, and simplicity of power plant, will all be intensively studied and results are bound to follow. Since better control and ease of landing, it is an ideal combination for, therefore, it would seem that the next twelve months should show great development.

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Refinements in Detail—Paving the Way for Larger Size

By H. E. WEINMILLER

Consulting Engineer, Dayton Ohio

IT IS VERY LIKELY that 1930 will see being forth any radical departures or improvements in the general trend of airplane design: progress being confined to the simplification of designs and decrease of detail, with appeal to the public's approval and lower manufacturing costs, being in importance. Customers will require the

15 Are steel wires likely to increase, decrease or remain approximately the same, on the average?

7 Will metal construction tend to replace wood, and if so, how rapidly?

8 Will metal construction continue to be predominantly of duralumin, or will alloy steel strip gain favor?

9 What developments are to be looked for in the near future in landing gear design?

several adoption of such speed increasing details as airfoil fitting caps, special cowlings and wheel streamliners, while interiors will lose their last traces of machinery appearance and be more homogeneously fitted and finished than our best automobiles.

The coming year will probably lay the solid foundation for, but not complete the construction of, large machines up to about 40-passenger capacity, with some supplies exceeding this. Such craft will be carefully designed and tested with the idea of being available for nearly several years from now and with an immediate rise to the passenger. Such a program necessarily requires the support of companies with great financial backing, and hence should be able to produce results worthy of the efforts and expenditures. These planes will be large in proportion to a comparison with present ones would seem to warrant, due to the fact that they will have proportionally more equipment, comfort, safety apparatus and convenience to move them on.

Aerodynamic novelties and on the way in this country, even where there are added a few miles per hour and increases safety of control, due to the fact that designers are acquiring the same results through cleaner design and more refined engineering.

On small and medium sized planes, the strut bracing will predominate with a gradual evolution to full cantilever wings in the very large planes. However, this will be impeded by the lack of suitable skin coverings for the stressed skin type, which in turn is due to lack of data and precedent.

Due to the increase in the use of thicker wing sections with higher lift per unit area, wing loadings will apparently increase but actually may not vary much from the present, while the most airplanes, especially of the externally braced type, will continue gradually.

Speaking of the industry in general, the next two years will probably see the passing of wooden spars and main structural members except for a few companies, who will continue to use them to the later end of the century. The transition to metal in some forms will not take place in volume until some years of hereafter, probably trivial in actual importance, strikes the public's vision.

At about the time of cessation in hostilities of the world war, we, there will be a prolonged battle between the proponents of steel construction, in its various forms such as square tubes, formed sheets and strips, and the continued uses of aluminum and other light alloys. At such a time, the virtues of each type of construction will be in important in sales arguments as any other one factor.

The trend toward water tanks for airplanes is rapidly gaining headway, to an extent where it may be overtaken. More attention is being paid to landing gear design with an eye to increasing its ruggedness and long life through better, but not necessarily better, shockers. Rubber wheels hardly pass any more, with the present reliability of old type shock absorbers.

It is felt that the past and the present years will serve as the final period for the determination of what is wanted and how it is to be made and thus the results of this will constitute the basis for manufacturers adopting a particular type of plane, construction and policy which will be followed in the next three to five years.

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Bright Future for Slots and Flaps—More Extensive Use of Metal

By C. J. MCCARTHY

Chief Engineer, United Fruit Corp.

FORMERLY it always a hither-and-thither campaign and nowhere more hazardous than in the rapidly advancing airplane industry, and so we hesitate to make predictions except along the broadest lines, and even then we may hope that the forecast will be safely borne in mind before another year rolls around.

Nevertheless, promises to be a busy year for the designer. With constant demands from operators for higher cruising speeds and better performance generally, and with pressure from sales departments for competitive engineering agreements to make the airplane outstanding in its field, the designer will be put to it to develop to the practical limit of all aerodynamic or structural aids he can find.

The results of the recently completed Guggenheim investigation have given a convincing full scale demonstration of the value of slot and flap construction in reducing landing speed and it is to be expected that the coming year will see a more extensive application of these devices.

It is safe to predict that there will be a more extensive use of metal. More and more designs will swing from wood to metal wing. The flap planes will probably continue to use wooden wings, but the larger commercial airplanes and substantially all airplanes designed for the military service will have metal wings. Fabric covering will probably be used for reasons of economy in cost and weight, except on high speed monoplanes, or in other cases where the additional structural strength furnished by the metal covering will justify its use.

There will be an increase in number of metal monocoque fuselages, particularly for military aircraft, but it is likely that the lack of commercial production will continue to use welded and tube construction.

Duralumin will be the preferred metal for the present but it will eventually have to meet serious competition from stainless steel. A great deal of progress has been made in the technology of the metal and experimental of stainless steels. Research work is being actively pressed by several large steel companies, and commercial applications are already being made in the automotive field.

The advantage of using a material which runs out of worry about corrosion and which does not require frequent repainting, is quite obvious, and it behooves designers to keep in touch with this development.

Expects Higher Wing Loadings

By F. W. WEADE

President, Associated Sales Men of America

IT WOULD seem that 1930 should show consistent improvement in production airplanes through more efficient planning and design, particularly as regards aerodynamic interference between parts, and intelligently devised structures which reduce weight without sacrifice in strength and are serviceable.

2 It would seem that large airplanes now built and undergoing experimental flying more than meet present requirements. The air transport operators apparently desire reduced fares at which they cannot possibly make a profit, are having difficulty obtaining satisfactory loads with present equipment. It does not appear that any demand for larger planes exists.

3 Flaps and slots on wings seem certain to grow in favor. "Flying Wings" extreme type and other novelties will be more widely tried than hitherto.

4 The advantages of the cantilever wing seem to more than outweigh its disadvantages, and improved multi-sparred design and wider use should gradually break down the barrier to its adoption.

5 It is believed that the demand for high speed, together with a greater number of approved airports, will cause unit wing loadings to continue to rise.

6 While it is difficult to generalize regarding speed rates because of the wide variance in different types, wing and airfoil sections may come time to decrease somewhat.

7 Metal construction will probably not increase radically until manufacturers have greater assurance of quantity sales and hence are justified in making the usual costs for equipment essential to increased production of all-sized types.

8 It is believed that duralumin will more than hold its own against other steel alloys. Better control of heat-treated duralumin properties will greatly improve its use and serviceability.

9 Few changes in landing gear are anticipated. Retractable will be experienced with.

It would seem that the company which designs and promotes a serviceable, two-place "flyer" airplane, of good flying characteristics, to sell for \$1,000 or \$2,000, will find a splendid market. That will undoubtedly require a considerable expenditure of money to develop a suitably reliable power plant, as none exists today.

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More Metal, But Not Welded

By M. C. BAUMANN

Chief Engineer, United Fruit Corp.

IT BELIEVES that the greatest progress in the immediate future will be made through the use of better strengthening such as N.A.C.A. cooling, "panels" on wheels, better fuselage shapes, etc., because it involves nothing new or radical.

2 The use of wing slots will increase.

3 Wing loadings have about reached their maximum for some time.

4 Aspect ratios may be expected to increase with better materials and better engineering available, especially in commercial airplanes.

5 All-metal construction will slightly increase, prac-

trially displacing wood and fabric within five years, and welding will decline due to the numerous cast alloys and the large losses inherent involved.

6. Forgings will gradually replace welded backup parts.

7. In metal construction the light alloys will predominate in contrast to steel which must be relatively thin and of complicated sections, and which must be generally fabricated as the finished state.

8. Fusion between castables and the externally bonded wings will remain about the same.

9. The successful development of larger planes must wait for revolutionary engines of greater power. No doubt a few new larger planes will be back with present engines.

10. The use of guided engines will no doubt be more common in the near future—especially in the commercial class.

11. More liquid cooled engines will make their appearance.

12. The general design of leading gear will remain about the same, excepting that the travel will be increased where side or similar design are used. I also expect to see retractable landing gear used in some of the high-speed airplanes.

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More Tapered Wings—Less Parabolic Resistance—Novelties in Control

By PROF. ALEXANDER KLEMIN

United Corporation School of Aeronautics New York University

THINKING seems to be an endless job further progress in the direction of aerodynamic perfection from the point of view of streamline should not come rapidly further study by designers and aerodynamicists should eliminate almost all exposed or surfaced parts and the rising airplanes of today may serve as a model for the commercial airplane of the future.

A tapered field of vision should be the tapered wing, in which a constant center of pressure should be obtainable with little sacrifice of efficiency and movement lift.

While the air-cooled engine offers many advantages, so large machines as liquid cooled engines holden as the wing with Prestone cooling, reducing the resistance to a minimum will offer great advantage from the point of view of performance.

The combination of air-cooled engines in proximity to the wing is a source of far greater aerodynamic loss than is apparent from the drag of the engine itself themselves and designers will find in this effort additional arguments for the use of liquid cooled engines in large planes.

The Sile Aircraft Corporation has among other things patented the possibility of the floating airplane, on an overhead ground is perhaps the very last type of lateral control yet devised. The Sile Aircraft Corporation has patented also the practicability of the Humberly Page slot in combination with rear flap and nosewheel will sooner or later come to the employment of this device.

The immediate employment of land planes of greater size than the largest at present available does not seem probable, but the experience with the D.O.N. and the



Alexander Klemin

necessity of large proportions for seaworthiness would lead one to believe that any other attempts will be made to build very large flying boats, and that such attempts will not worth while.

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Merchandising Will Control Design

By LIEUT. LLOYD HARRISON, C.E.

in Charge of Structural Analysis Bureau of Aeronautics, Navy Department

IT IS INCLUSIVE to think the question is rather too general and confined to be of much significance in the near year, when there should certainly be a primary interest in the struggle to survive, rather than in the pursuit of ephemeral advances. I look for building to close prices, with "piglets" added for sales purposes at the moment.

Specifically, however, I will give a few guesses at the answers to your questions, which may be of some bearing as a substitution necessary, perhaps.

1. Greatest progress in the next few years should be in the direction of improving the mechanism, under operating conditions of the relatively refined types of structure.

2. No very large planes right away by responsible and experienced companies.

3. More use of slots, etc., than their value merits, in an attempt to capitalize customer demand coming from the Guggenheim tests publicity.

4. No guess.

5. Not much change.

6. Not much change.

7. Yes, very rapidly in military machines.

8. Doubtless very largely, but some forced progress in steel wire, particularly stainless steel.

9. No guess.

Further substitutions in this typewritten will appear in next week's issue.



PROMINENT aircraft engine designers were asked substantially the following questions:

1. Is the liquid-cooled engine likely to regain substantial favor during the coming year?

2. Will air-cooled engines continue to be predominantly rated in form?

3. What are the most important improvements in engine performance to be anticipated in the near future?

4. Do you think that it will be possible to make further increases in compression ratio without change of bore size?

5. Are you in favor of a marked improvement in standard test as governed by specifications?

6. What is your opinion of the probable early future

of the compression-ignition type of engine in aircraft power plants?

7. Do you look forward to marked innovations in cylinder arrangements?

8. What is the prospect for the use of materials outside the ordinary present range of commercial products, such as magnesium, and of new manufacturing processes, such as the forging of cylinder heads of duralumin?

1,000 Hours Between Overhauls—Radical Developments Likely—Simplification Needed in the Interest of Economy

By ROBERT W. A. BREWER

Consulting Engineer

MY PERSONAL VIEWS as to the probable technical development of aircraft engines in the near future divide into two distinct types of power plants which are likely to be of importance. First, there is the group which would be considerably simplified by an engine developing about 500 h.p. and the smaller group developing around 200 h.p.

I fully believe that such engines as we have today in the field groups, for example, developing 750 to 1,000 h.p. are more likely to be liquid cooled than air cooled, as it would seem that the practical limit of size of an air-cooled engine is a limit which is convenient for mounting and cooling, is reached at a power limit around 600 h.p. or thereabouts.

I do believe that larger engines will have in-line arrangement of cylinders in one bank or propeller or radial and that the weight of the plant will not be much different from what I now sit, for a similar type of engine. I believe that the period between overhauls will be extended to 1,000 hr. and this will probably be due to the use of improved materials and higher working temperatures of certain parts upon which carbon is now precipitated.

It is quite probable that the specific output of engines will be increased to a small extent, possibly 20 per cent or thereabouts, but there are no more difficulties which come in, when compression alone is used in engines of the conventional type, that we must look to other modifications in design and functioning in order to give the increase in power which it is finally believed will be attained in the near year or so from the near cylinder developments.

I do not believe that had yet, as is governed by specifications, is going to be to the factor which comes in, such as methods of loading it and controlling it is the process of burning. If we do have compression ignition types of engines it will not really be because of any reduction in fuel hazard, because I do not believe very much in the claims made in this direction, but it will probably be for other reasons, for example, economy and better distribution.



R. W. A. Brewer

9. Are you satisfied with the present type of engine mounting and the ways in which it is applied?

10. Are any marked improvements in secondary installations and in "finishing" to be looked for?

11. Will there be a trend towards the building of unit power plant sections, with the engine designer proceeding for standard mountings, cowings, and accessory locations?

It is quite likely that some unconventional cylinder arrangement will come into prominence, that is a very definite reason, as there are numerous disadvantages in all the existing types of well known arrangements, and I am certainly not satisfied with the present types or engine mountings or applications. It may perhaps be an exaggeration to say that the average aircraft engine is made for any purpose other than mounting in an airplane, but it would also seem to be the case because of the difficulties and disadvantages attendant upon the mounting of the usual engine.

It is the experience of those with whom I am associated that the mounting of an engine absorbs a large proportion of the actual cost of the power plant equipment, and this should not be the case. If the proper relations were maintained between engine designers and aircraft designers I think it most imperative that cooperation and coordination of the freest character should exist between these two branches of aircraft engineering, and it is only by such action that we can hope to bring the cost of a well equipped plane within the reach of the large section of the buying public which we desire to interest as customers.

It is my firm belief and has been all along that if we are going to produce the right article at an attractive price we must strive for simplification of parts, using the most suitable materials which we can obtain for specific purposes where they will give better service than materials of lower price. At the same time, there are many reasons for using commercial materials where possible when they are clearly suitable for the purpose for which they are intended. I do not believe in unnecessary expenditures for surface finish for appearance only, but certainly where finish is used in order to make examination easy satisfactory, it is justified.

In a nutshell, we want better engines for less money.

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Radials Best for Low Powers—No Compression Increases—More Magnesium, and New Alloy Steels

By L. A. MAJNREIL

Act's Chief Engineer, Western Aircraft Corp.

WE DO NOT THINK that liquid-cooled engines are going to regain substantial favor during the coming year, especially in commercial aviation. Liquid cooling, merely when using Prestone, seems to be very beneficial where it is necessary to get the last fraction of power out of the engine as in the case of military high-speed pursuit airplanes. The disadvantage for commercial aviation, especially for engines of low

PERSONNEL

Don G. MacIntyre, E. G. MacIntyre, assistant to the chief of the Air Corps, will retire June 30 after completing more than 35 yr. of service. Prior to his appointment as assistant to the chief, he was chief of the material division of the Air Corps at Wright Field.

G. S. Langan, engineer of the company, has rejoined Ireland Aircraft, Inc., its executive vice-president in charge of sales. He has resigned his position as vice president of Corbin-Wright Flying Service, and will specifically undertake the establishment of a sales organization for distribution of Lockheed flying boats and engines.

EARL OVERBERG was designated president of the Early Birds at a recent banquet at Alexandria Hotel, Los Angeles, Calif.

C. C. Cullipatti, formerly with Douglas Aircraft Co., has been appointed manager of the American Eagle Aircraft Corp., factory branch at Love Field, Dallas, Tex.

DAVID VIAN, vice-president and general manager of Corbin-Wright Aircraft Corp., has been made president of Corbin-Wright Flying Service, effective March 1.

WALTER J. HALL, assistant manager of Corbin-Wright Flying Service at Denver, Colo., has been made chairman of the Colorado state committee on aeronautics.

MAX J. CHAMBERLAIN has been elected vice-president of American Eagle Aircraft Corp., Kansas City, Mo.

KENNY G. GILLES, vice president, will supervise sales of the Lockheed-Wellington division of American Eagle Corp. who has been in charge of sales, will devote his time to airport operations.

DAVID W. BROWN has been made chairman in charge of railroad and industrial development for The Pyle-National Co., Chicago, Ill.

JAMES G. RAY, formerly operations manager, has been elected vice-president of Pyle-National, Inc., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. He is chairman of the board of directors of the Pyle-National Co., Chicago, Ill.

MISS CECIL KROGER and MISS KET MATHIAS have joined the sales staff of Army Aircraft & Motor Corp. (Bristol) (Bristol) Municipal Airport.

DR. THOMAS KAKKAN, professor of aerodynamics at the Aeronautical Institute at the University of Aachen, Germany, has been appointed director of the Guggenheim Light-

European division in the main Department at Washington, D. C.

G. L. BLAIR has been made general manager, and JAMES MATHIAS has been made sales manager of the Pyle-National Co., the Pyle-National Co., St. Louis.

PAUL LUNA, chief pilot for Waco Aircraft Co., has returned to accept a position with Corbin-Wright Exhibition Co. at Miami, Fla.

CARL B. SCHMIDT, formerly sales manager for Hamilton Aero Manufacturing Co., has been appointed sales manager for Hamilton Standard Steel Propeller Co., Minneapolis, Minn.

GEO. B. STRATTON has been appointed chief flight instructor for the National Flying School at Rochester, N. Y.

G. C. CHRISTIANSEN, recently assistant manager of Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Co. at Hartford, Conn., has been made western representative for the company. He is to be succeeded at Hartford by J. L. BURKE of the same company.

DAVID BACHMAN has been elected as pilot for Jones D. Mendenhall as proposed assistant to break the record for the world's longest flight.

C. C. CULLIPATTI, formerly with Douglas Aircraft Co., has been appointed manager of the American Eagle Aircraft Corp., factory branch at Love Field, Dallas, Tex.

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AERONAUTICAL CALENDAR

Feb. 26-27 Annual Aircraft Industry Exposition, New York, N. Y., 100th Anniversary of the Wright Brothers, 1903-1953.

Feb. 28-29 National Air Show, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 2680, 2681, 2682, 2683, 2684, 2685, 2686, 2687, 2688, 2689, 2690, 2691, 2692, 2693, 2694, 2695, 2696, 2697, 2698, 2699, 2700, 2701, 2702, 2703, 2704, 2705, 2706, 2707, 2708, 2709, 2710, 2711, 2712, 2713, 2714, 2715, 2716, 2717, 2718, 2719, 2720, 2721, 2722, 2723, 2724, 2725, 2726, 2727, 2728, 2729, 2730, 2731, 2732, 2733, 2734, 2735, 2736, 2737, 2738, 2739, 2740, 2741, 2742, 2743, 2744, 2745, 2746, 2747, 2748, 2749, 2750, 2751, 2752, 2753, 2754, 2755, 2756, 2757, 2758, 2759, 2760, 2761, 2762, 2763, 2764, 2765, 2766, 2767, 2768, 2769, 2770, 2771, 2772, 2773, 2774, 2775, 2776, 2777, 2778, 2779, 2780, 2781, 2782, 2783, 2784, 2785, 2786, 2787, 2788, 2789, 2790, 2791, 2792, 2793, 2794, 2795, 2796, 2797, 2798, 2799, 2800, 2801, 2802, 2803, 2804, 2805, 2806, 2807, 2808, 2809, 2810, 2811, 2812, 2813, 2814, 2815, 2816, 2817, 2818, 2819, 2820, 2821, 2822, 2823, 2824, 2825, 2826, 2827, 2828, 2829, 2830, 2831, 2832, 2833, 2834, 2835, 2836, 2837, 2838, 2839, 2840, 2841, 2842, 2843, 2844, 2845, 2846, 2847, 2848, 2849, 2850, 2851, 2852, 2853, 2854, 2855, 2856, 2857, 2858, 2859, 2860, 2861, 2862, 2863, 2864, 2865, 2866, 2867, 2868, 2869, 2870, 2871, 2872, 2873, 2874, 2875, 2876, 2877, 2878, 2879, 2880, 2881, 2882, 2883, 2884, 2885, 2886, 2887, 2888, 2889, 2890, 2891, 2892, 2893, 2894, 2895, 2896, 2897, 2898, 2899, 2900, 2901, 2902, 2903, 2904, 2905, 2906, 2907, 2908, 2909, 2910, 2911, 2912, 2913, 2914, 2915, 2916, 2917, 2918, 2919, 2920, 2921, 2922, 2923, 2924, 2925, 2926, 2927, 2928, 2929, 2930, 2931, 2932, 2933, 2934, 2935, 2936, 2937, 2938, 2939, 2940, 2941, 2942, 2943, 2944, 2945, 2946, 2947, 2948, 2949, 2950, 2951, 2952, 2953, 2954, 2955, 2956, 2957, 2958, 2959, 2960, 2961, 2962, 2963, 2964, 2965, 2966, 2967, 2968, 2969, 2970, 2971, 2972, 2973, 2974, 2975, 2976, 2977, 2978, 2979, 2980, 2981, 2982, 2983, 2984, 2985, 2986, 2987, 2988, 2989, 2990, 2991, 2992, 2993, 2994, 2995, 2996, 2997, 2998, 2999, 3000, 3001, 3002, 3003, 3004, 3005, 3006, 3007, 3008, 3009, 3010, 3011, 3012, 3013, 3014, 3015, 3016, 3017, 3018, 3019, 3020, 3021, 3022, 3023, 3024, 3025, 3026, 3027, 3028, 3029, 3030, 3031, 3032, 3033, 3034, 3035, 3036, 3037, 3038, 3039, 3040, 3041, 3042, 3043, 3044, 3045, 3046, 3047, 3048, 3049, 3050, 3051, 3052, 3053, 3054, 3055, 3056, 3057, 3058, 3059, 3060, 3061, 3062, 3063, 3064, 3065, 3066, 3067, 3068, 3069, 3070, 3071, 3072, 3073, 3074, 3075, 3076, 3077, 3078, 3079, 3080, 3081, 3082, 3083, 3084, 3085, 3086, 3087, 3088, 3089, 3090, 3091, 3092, 3093, 3094, 3095, 3096, 3097, 3098, 3099, 3100, 3101, 3102, 3103, 3104, 3105, 3106, 3107, 3108, 3109, 3110, 3111, 3112, 3113, 3114, 3115, 3116, 3117, 3118, 3119, 3120, 3121, 3122, 3123, 3124, 3125, 3126, 3127, 3128, 3129, 3130, 3131, 3132, 3133, 3134, 3135, 3136, 3137, 3138, 3139, 3140, 3141, 3142, 3143, 3144, 3145, 3146, 3147, 3148, 3149, 3150, 3151, 3152, 3153, 3154, 3155, 3156, 3157, 3158, 3159, 3160, 3161, 3162, 3163, 3164, 3165, 3166, 3167, 3168, 3169, 3170, 3171, 3172, 3173, 3174, 3175, 3176, 3177, 3178, 3179, 3180, 3181, 3182, 3183, 3184, 3185, 3186, 3187, 3188, 3189, 3190, 3191, 3192, 3193, 3194, 3195, 3196, 3197, 3198, 3199, 3200, 3201, 3202, 3203, 3204, 3205, 3206, 3207, 3208, 3209, 3210, 3211, 3212, 3213, 3214, 3215, 3216, 3217, 3218, 3219, 3220, 3221, 3222, 3223, 3224, 3225, 3226, 3227, 3228, 3229, 3230, 3231, 3232, 3233, 3234, 3235, 3236, 3237, 3238, 3239, 3240, 3241, 3242, 3243, 3244, 3245, 3246, 3247, 3248, 3249, 3250, 3251, 3252, 3253, 3254, 3255, 3256, 3257, 3258, 3259, 3260, 3261, 3262, 3263, 3264, 3265, 3266, 3267, 3268, 3269, 3270, 3271, 3272, 3273, 3274, 3275, 3276, 3277, 3278, 3279, 3280, 3281, 3282, 3283, 3284, 3285, 3286, 3287, 3288, 3289, 3290, 3291, 3292, 3293, 3294, 3295, 3296, 3297, 3298, 3299, 3300, 3301, 3302, 3303, 3304, 3305, 3306, 3307, 3308, 3309, 3310, 3311, 3312, 3313, 3314, 3315, 3316, 3317, 3318, 3319, 3320, 3321, 3322, 3323, 3324, 3325, 3326, 3327, 3328, 3329, 3330, 3331, 3332, 3333, 3334, 3335, 3336, 3337, 3338, 3339, 3340, 3341, 3342, 3343, 3344, 3345, 3346, 3347, 3348, 3349, 3350, 3351, 3352, 3353, 3354, 3355, 3356, 3357, 3358, 3359, 3360, 3361, 3362, 3363, 3364, 3365, 3366, 3367, 3368, 3369, 3370, 3371, 3372, 3373, 3374, 3375, 3376, 3377, 3378, 3379, 3380, 3381, 3382, 3383, 3384, 3385, 3386, 3387, 3388, 3389, 3390, 3391, 3392, 3393, 3394, 3395, 3396, 3397, 3398, 3399, 3400, 3401, 3402, 3403, 3404, 3405, 3406, 3407, 3408, 3409, 3410, 3411, 3412, 3413, 3414, 3415, 3416, 3417, 3418, 3419, 3420, 3421, 3422, 3423, 3424, 3425, 3426, 3427, 3428, 3429, 3430, 3431, 3432, 3433, 3434, 3435, 3436, 3437, 3438, 3439, 3440, 3441, 3442, 3443, 3444, 3445, 3446, 3447, 3448, 3449, 3450, 3451, 3452, 3453, 3454, 3455, 3456, 3457, 3458, 3459, 3460, 3461, 3462, 3463, 3464, 3465, 3466, 3467, 3468, 3469, 3470, 3471, 3472, 3473, 3474, 3475, 3476, 3477, 3478, 3479, 3480, 3481, 3482, 3483, 3484, 3485, 3486, 3487, 3488, 3489, 3490, 3491, 3492, 3493, 3494, 3495, 3496, 3497, 3498, 3499, 3500, 3501, 3502, 3503, 3504, 3505, 3506, 3507, 3508, 3509, 3510, 3511, 3512, 3513, 3514, 3515, 3516, 3517, 3518, 3519, 3520, 3521, 3522, 3523, 3524, 3525, 3526, 3527, 3528, 3529, 3530, 3531, 3532, 3533, 3534, 3535, 3536, 3537, 3538, 3539, 3540, 3541, 3542, 3543, 3544, 3545, 3546, 3547, 3548, 3549, 3550, 3551, 3552, 3553, 3554, 3555, 3556, 3557, 3558, 3559, 3560, 3561, 3562, 3563, 3564, 3565, 3566, 3567, 3568, 3569, 3570, 3571, 3572, 3573, 3574, 3575, 3576, 3577, 3578, 3579, 3580, 3581, 3582, 3583, 3584, 3585, 3586, 3587, 3588, 3589, 3590, 3591, 3592, 3593, 3594, 3595, 3596, 3597, 3598, 3599, 3600, 3601, 3602, 3603, 3604, 3605, 3606, 3607, 3608, 3609, 3610, 3611, 3612, 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THE BUYER'S LOG BOOK



Gross "B" Struts

Production is now under way at the new Los Angeles factory of the Gross Air Spring Company of America, Ltd., on the new series "B" Gross Air Strut shock absorber unit for aircraft landing gear, which reproduces the "A" series formerly manufactured by this firm.

These shock absorbers are manufactured in stock sizes suitable for planes having gross weights of from 1,000 to 25,000 lb. They are standardized on complete units, ready for installation, being provided with proper anchorage dimensions and a newly developed aluminum lining of high aerodynamic efficiency and exceedingly low resistance.

Gross Air Struts are constructed on the same principle as the standard principle. A landing gear and having a combination of air confined with a positive shock absorber, double shock absorber and rebound shock absorber, gives efficient shock absorption and smooth riding qualities when the plane is in contact with the ground. A new patented packing adjustment and oil suspension for installation in the series "B" strut, the action of which is entirely automatic and needs no adjustment. This feature compensates for packing wear and prevents leakage of oil or air at any time. The oil compensator feature

acts as a safeguard to the strut unit in automatically returning oil to the internal reservoir whenever the plane leaves the ground. Through the use of high strength alloy steel and more compact and precise design and construction, it has been possible to reduce the weight of the new series "B" struts as much as 35 per cent over that of former models of equal capacity.

The new series "B" Gross Air Struts are manufactured complete in a new factory at Los Angeles, completely equipped with the latest types of production machinery, with all operations being processes conducted under the closest supervision, with rigid inspection to assure manufacture to very close limits and the production of consistently correct and reliable shock absorbing units for all types of planes.

G. E. Ceiling Indicator

RECENT PRODUCT of the General Electric Company, Schenectady, N. Y., is a ceiling light indicator to be used in conjunction with the 14 in. Xenon ceiling light. Its purpose is to simplify the process and make possible a quick determination of the ceiling height without requiring aerial measurements. The indicator should be located 800 ft. from the location of the ceiling light and be visible from a distance of 10 to 20 mi. In determining the height of the ceiling it is first necessary only to sight along the indicator arm, marking it and it points directly to the reflection of the light beam on the ceiling and the height may be read directly in feet from the production on the scale.

The construction is of non-corrosive material with fitted and inverted Y-shaped sights to facilitate reading. Leveling screws are provided so that the indicator arm can be properly adjusted on a 4 ft. pipe support. The weight is 62 lb.

B-B TRADE CATALOGS—oil

SEVERAL TIME SWITCHES. B. W. Crocker & Company, Inc. has just issued a catalog illustrating the use of Senter Time Switches in running "on" and "off" electric circuits. The first part of the booklet is composed of five sections, each section being devoted to photographing, wiring diagrams and detailed applications of a certain type of switch. The latter half contains a series of bulletins which describe the design used and illustrate specific applications of the different switches, including a type for use on several beams.

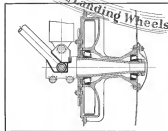
INTERCHANGEABLE BEARING. The Federal Metal Corporation, promotes the advantages of a new interchangeable bearing in a recent 12 page booklet entitled "How to Choose a Rolling Assembly Operation." This includes an outline of the steps in the installation of line-iron bearings and interchangeable bearings, with illustrations of the bearing and the manner of the factory assembly.

SALES AND SERVICE. The Victor Flying Boat Company has recently published a folder giving performance data and specifications on the Ketchikan Model B-4. The principal features in the construction are illustrated by a series of photographs.

Oil-draulic Skis

THE RECENTLY announced development by the General Products Corporation, 2001 Main Avenue, Danbury, Conn., employs a jetted oil-draulic shock absorbing unit to take care of the landing shock smoothly absorbed by the airplane tire. The skis are built in three standard sizes known as the Junior, Senior and Titanizer. The Junior model is for use on planes weighing between 2,500 and 4,000 lb., the Senior for planes weighing 4,000 to 6,000 lb. while the Titanizer is easily in "tail-tension" and provides for planes weighing in weight between 10,000 and 15,000 lb. The skis are 9 ft. long and 16 in. wide the surface varying in the weight of the skis. The shock unit has a travel of 8 in. Only wooden runways are recommended by the company since metal runways are liable to freeze to the ground and frequently on ice or snow.

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HAPPY landings are the rule under all conditions with Timken-equipped wheels—on regular landing fields or on give-and-take terrain.

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Timken-equipped wheels cannot work loose, or get out of alignment and wobble. Ground looping risks are reduced. The possibility of losing wheels in the air is done away with. Quicker take-off is made possible by friction elimination. Tires are saved by the prevention of wheel drag when landing. Little or no maintenance attention is needed.

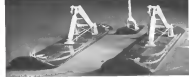
In collaboration with prominent air-

craft authorities, Timken engineers have developed a series of standard bearing applications covering practically every airplane wheel requirement. A typical layout for split type landing gear with Timken-equipped disc wheels is shown here.

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The Aviation Industry needs these Facts

THE March 22 Statistical Issue of Aviation brings to the engineering, production executives as well as the sales managers and advertising managers of the aviation industry the very facts that they need in planning their production, sales and advertising programs.

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Such intensive reader interest as this particular issue is bound to have is sure to make it a valuable advertising medium. Advertisers will do well to use their most effective advertisements in this issue not only for its present sale, but also because of its year-round reference value.



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1445, 1447, 1449, 1451, 1453, 1455, 1457, 1459, 1461, 1463, 1465, 1467, 1469, 1471, 1473, 1475, 1477, 1479, 1481, 1483, 1485, 1487, 1489, 1491, 1493, 1495, 1497, 1499, 1501, 1503, 1505, 1507, 1509, 1511, 1513, 1515, 1517, 1519, 1521, 1523, 1525, 1527, 1529, 1531, 1533, 1535, 1537, 1539, 1541, 1543, 1545, 1547, 1549, 1551, 1553, 1555, 1557, 1559, 1561, 1563, 1565, 1567, 1569, 1571, 1573, 1575, 1577, 1579, 1581, 1583, 1585, 1587, 1589, 1591, 1593, 1595, 1597, 1599, 1601, 1603, 1605, 1607, 1609, 1611, 1613, 1615, 1617, 1619, 1621, 1623, 1625, 1627, 1629, 1631, 1633, 1635, 1637, 1639, 1641, 1643, 1645, 1647, 1649, 1651, 1653, 1655, 1657, 1659, 1661, 1663, 1665, 1667, 1669, 1671, 1673, 1675, 1677, 1679, 1681, 1683, 1685, 1687, 1689, 1691, 1693, 1695, 1697, 1699, 1701, 1703, 1705, 1707, 1709, 1711, 1713, 1715, 1717, 1719, 1721, 1723, 1725, 1727, 1729, 1731, 1733, 1735, 1737, 1739, 1741, 1743, 1745, 1747, 1749, 1751, 1753, 1755, 1757, 1759, 1761, 1763, 1765, 1767, 1769, 1771, 1773, 1775, 1777, 1779, 1781, 1783, 1785, 1787, 1789, 1791, 1793, 1795, 1797, 1799, 1801, 1803, 1805, 1807, 1809, 1811, 1813, 1815, 1817, 1819, 1821, 1823, 1825, 1827, 1829, 1831, 1833, 1835, 1837, 1839, 1841, 1843, 1845, 1847, 1849, 1851, 1853, 1855, 1857, 1859, 1861, 1863, 1865, 1867, 1869, 1871, 1873, 1875, 1877, 1879, 1881, 1883, 1885, 1887, 1889, 1891, 1893, 1895, 1897, 1899, 1901, 1903, 1905, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1913, 1915, 1917, 1919, 1921, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1929, 1931, 1933, 1935, 1937, 1939, 1941, 1943, 1945, 1947, 1949, 1951, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1969, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2023, 2025, 2027, 2029, 2031, 2033, 2035, 2037, 2039, 2041, 2043, 2045, 2047, 2049, 2051, 2053, 2055, 2057, 2059, 2061, 2063, 2065, 2067, 2069, 2071, 2073, 2075, 2077, 2079, 2081, 2083, 2085, 2087, 2089, 2091, 2093, 2095, 2097, 2099, 2101, 2103, 2105, 2107, 2109, 2111, 2113, 2115, 2117, 2119, 2121, 2123, 2125, 2127, 2129, 2131, 2133, 2135, 2137, 2139, 2141, 2143, 2145, 2147, 2149, 2151, 2153, 2155, 2157, 2159, 2161, 2163, 2165, 2167, 2169, 2171, 2173, 2175, 2177, 2179, 2181, 2183, 2185, 2187, 2189, 2191, 2193, 2195, 2197, 2199, 2201, 2203, 2205, 2207, 2209, 2211, 2213, 2215, 2217, 2219, 2221, 2223, 2225, 2227, 2229, 2231, 2233, 2235, 2237, 2239, 2241, 2243, 2245, 2247, 2249, 2251, 2253, 2255, 2257, 2259, 2261, 2263, 2265, 2267, 2269, 2271, 2273, 2275, 2277, 2279, 2281, 2283, 2285, 2287, 2289, 2291, 2293, 2295, 2297, 2299, 2301, 2303, 2305, 2307, 2309, 2311, 2313, 2315, 2317, 2319, 2321, 2323, 2325, 2327, 2329, 2331, 2333, 2335, 2337, 2339, 2341, 2343, 2345, 2347, 2349, 2351, 2353, 2355, 2357, 2359, 2361, 2363, 2365, 2367, 2369, 2371, 2373, 2375, 2377, 2379, 2381, 2383, 2385, 2387, 2389, 2391, 2393, 2395, 2397, 2399, 2401, 2403, 2405, 2407, 2409, 2411, 2413, 2415, 2417, 2419, 2421, 2423, 2425, 2427, 2429, 2431, 2433, 2435, 2437, 2439, 2441, 2443, 2445, 2447, 2449, 2451, 2453, 2455, 2457, 2459, 2461, 2463, 2465, 2467, 2469, 2471, 2473, 2475, 2477, 2479, 2481, 2483, 2485, 2487, 2489, 2491, 2493, 2495, 2497, 2499, 2501, 2503, 2505, 2507, 2509, 2511, 2513, 2515, 2517, 2519, 2521, 2523, 2525, 2527, 2529, 2531, 2533, 2535, 2537, 2539, 2541, 2543, 2545, 2547, 2549, 2551, 2553, 2555, 2557, 2559, 2561, 2563, 2565, 2567, 2569, 2571, 2573, 2575, 2577, 2579, 2581, 2583, 2585, 2587, 2589, 2591, 2593, 2595, 2597, 2599, 2601, 2603, 2605, 2607, 2609, 2611, 2613, 2615, 2617, 2619, 2621, 2623, 2625, 2627, 2629, 2631, 2633, 2635, 2637, 2639, 2641, 2643, 2645, 2647, 2649, 2651, 2653, 2655, 2657, 2659, 2661, 2663, 2665, 2667, 2669, 2671, 2673, 2675, 2677, 2679, 2681, 2683, 2685, 2687, 2689, 2691, 2693, 2695, 2697, 2699, 2701, 2703, 2705, 2707, 2709, 2711, 2713, 2715, 2717, 2719, 2721, 2723, 2725, 2727, 2729, 2731, 2733, 2735, 2737, 2739, 2741, 2743, 2745, 2747, 2749, 2751, 2753, 2755, 2757, 2759, 2761, 2763, 2765, 2767, 2769, 2771, 2773, 2775, 2777, 2779, 2781, 2783, 2785, 2787, 2789, 2791, 2793, 2795, 2797, 2799, 2801, 2803, 2805, 2807, 2809, 2811, 2813, 2815, 2817, 2819, 2821, 2823, 2825, 2827, 2829, 2831, 2833, 2835, 2837, 2839, 2841, 2843, 2845, 2847, 2849, 2851, 2853, 2855, 2857, 2859, 2861, 2863, 2865, 2867, 2869, 2871, 2873, 2875, 2877, 2879, 2881, 2883, 2885, 2887, 2889, 2891, 2893, 2895, 2897, 2899, 2901, 2903, 2905, 2907, 2909, 2911, 2913, 2915, 2917, 2919, 2921, 2923, 2925, 2927, 2929, 2931, 2933, 2935, 2937, 2939, 2941, 2943, 2945, 2947, 2949, 2951, 2953, 2955, 2957, 2959, 2961, 2963, 2965, 2967, 2969, 2971, 2973, 2975, 2977, 2979, 2981, 2983, 2985, 2987, 2989, 2991, 2993, 2995, 2997, 2999, 3001, 3003, 3005, 3007, 3009, 3011, 3013, 3015, 3017, 3019, 3021, 3023, 3025, 3027, 3029, 3031, 3033, 3035, 3037, 3039, 3041, 3043, 3045, 3047, 3049, 3051, 3053, 3055, 3057, 3059, 3061, 3063, 3065, 3067, 3069, 3071, 3073, 3075, 3077, 3079, 3081, 3083, 3085, 3087, 3089, 3091, 3093, 3095, 3097, 3099, 3101, 3103, 3105, 3107, 3109, 3111, 3113, 3115, 3117, 3119, 3121, 3123, 3125, 3127, 3129, 3131, 3133, 3135, 3137, 3139, 3141, 3143, 3145, 3147, 3149, 3151, 3153, 3155, 3157, 3159, 3161, 3163, 3165, 3167, 3169, 3171, 3173, 3175, 3177, 3179, 3181, 3183, 3185, 3187, 3189, 3191, 3193, 3195, 3197, 3199, 3201, 3203, 3205, 3207, 3209, 3211, 3213, 3215, 3217, 3219, 3221, 3223, 3225, 3227, 3229, 3231, 3233, 3235, 3237, 3239, 3241, 3243, 3245, 3247, 3249, 3251, 3253, 3255, 3257, 3259, 3261, 3263, 3265, 3267, 3269, 3271, 3273, 3275, 3277, 3279, 3281, 3283, 3285, 3287, 3289, 3291, 3293, 3295, 3297, 3299, 3301, 3303, 3305, 3307, 3309, 3311, 3313, 3315, 3317, 3319, 3321, 3323, 3325, 3327, 3329, 3331, 3333, 3335, 3337, 3339, 3341, 3343, 3345, 3347, 3349, 3351, 3353, 3355, 3357, 3359, 3361, 3363, 3365, 3367, 3369, 3371, 3373, 3375, 3377, 3379, 3381, 3383, 3385, 3387, 3389, 3391, 3393, 3395, 3397, 3399, 3401, 3403, 3405, 3407, 3409, 3411, 3413, 3415, 3417, 3419, 3421, 3423, 3425, 3427, 3429, 3431, 3433, 3435, 3437, 3439, 3441, 3443, 3445, 3447, 3449, 3451, 3453, 3455, 3457, 3459, 3461, 3463, 3465, 3467, 3469, 3471, 3473, 3475, 3477, 3479, 3481, 3483, 3485, 3487, 3489, 3491, 3493, 3495, 3497, 3499, 3501, 3503, 3505, 3507, 3509, 3511, 3513, 3515, 3517, 3519, 3521, 3523, 3525, 3527, 3529, 3531, 3533, 3535, 3537, 3539, 3541, 3543, 3545, 3547, 3549, 3551, 3553, 3555, 3557, 3559, 3561, 3563, 3565, 3567, 3569, 3571, 3573, 3575, 3577, 3579, 3581, 3583, 3585, 3587, 3589, 3591, 3593, 3595, 3597, 3599, 3601, 3603, 3605, 3607, 3609, 3611, 3613, 3615, 3617, 3619, 3621, 3623, 3625, 3627, 3629, 3631, 3633, 3635, 3637, 3639, 3641, 3643, 3645, 3647, 3649, 3651, 3653, 3655, 3657, 3659, 3661, 3663, 3665, 3667, 3669, 3671, 3673, 3675, 3677, 3679, 3681, 3683, 3685, 3687, 3689, 3691, 3693, 3695, 3697, 3699, 3701, 3703, 3705, 3707, 3709, 3711, 3713, 3715, 3717, 3719, 3721, 3723, 3725, 3727, 3729, 3731, 3733, 3735, 3737, 3739, 3741, 3743, 3745, 3747, 3749, 3751, 3753, 3755, 3757, 3759, 3761, 3763, 3765, 3767, 3769, 3771, 3773, 3775, 3777, 3779, 3781, 3783, 3785, 3787, 3789, 3791, 3793, 3795, 3797, 3799, 3801, 3803, 3805, 3807, 3809, 3811, 3813, 3815, 3817, 3819, 3821, 3823, 3825, 3827, 3829, 3831, 3833, 3835, 3837, 3839, 3841, 3843, 3845, 3847, 3849, 3851, 3853, 3855, 3857, 3859, 3861, 3863, 3865, 3867, 3869, 3871, 3873, 3875, 3877, 3879, 3881, 3883, 3885, 3887, 3889, 3891, 3893, 3895, 3897, 3899, 3901, 3903, 3905, 3907, 3909, 3911, 3913, 3915, 3917, 3919, 3921, 3923, 3925, 3927, 3929, 3931, 3933, 3935, 3937, 3939, 3941, 3943, 3945, 3947, 3949, 3951, 3953, 3955, 3957, 3959, 3961, 3963, 3965, 3967, 3969, 3971, 3973, 3975, 3977, 3979, 3981, 3983, 3985, 3987, 3989, 3991, 3993, 3995, 3997, 3999, 4001, 4003, 4005, 4007, 4009, 4011, 4013, 4015, 4017, 4019, 4021, 4023, 4025, 4027, 4029, 4031, 4033, 4035, 4037, 4039, 4041, 4043, 4045, 4047, 4049, 4051, 4053, 4055, 4057, 4059, 4061, 4063, 4065, 4067, 4069, 4071, 4073, 4075, 4077, 4079, 4081, 4083, 4085, 4087, 4089, 4091, 4093, 4095, 4097, 4099, 4101, 4103, 4105, 4107, 4109, 4111, 4113, 4115, 4117, 4119, 4121, 4123, 4125, 4127, 4129, 4131, 4133, 4135, 4137, 4139, 4141, 4143, 4145, 4147, 4149, 4151, 4153, 4155, 4157, 4159, 4161, 4163, 4165, 4167, 4169, 4171, 4173, 4175, 4177, 4179, 4181, 4183, 4185, 4187, 4189, 4191, 4193, 4195, 4197, 4199, 4201, 4203, 4205, 4207, 4209, 4211, 4213, 4215, 4217, 4219, 4221, 4223, 4225, 4227, 4229, 4231, 4233, 4235, 4237, 4239, 4241, 4243, 4245, 4247, 4249, 4251, 4253, 4255, 4257, 4259, 4261, 4263, 4265, 4267, 4269, 4271, 4273, 4275, 4277, 4279, 4281, 4283, 4285, 4287, 4289, 4291, 4293, 4295, 4297, 4299, 4301, 4303, 4305, 4307, 4309, 4311, 4313, 4315, 4317, 4319, 4321, 4323, 4325, 4327, 4329, 4331, 4333, 4335, 4337, 4339, 4341, 4343, 4345, 4347, 4349, 4351, 4353, 4355, 4357, 4359, 4361, 4363, 4365, 4367, 4369, 4371, 4373, 4375, 4377, 4379, 4381, 4383, 4385, 4387, 4389, 4391, 4393, 4395, 4397, 4399, 4401, 4403, 4405, 4407, 4409, 4411, 4413, 4415, 4417, 4419, 4421, 4423, 4425, 4427, 4429, 4431, 4433, 4435, 4437, 4439, 4441, 4443, 4445, 4447, 4449, 4451, 4453, 4455, 4457, 4459, 4461, 4463, 4465, 4467, 4469, 4471, 4473, 4475, 4477, 4479, 4481, 4483, 4485, 4487, 4489, 4491, 4493, 4495, 4497, 4499, 4501, 4503, 4505, 4507, 4509, 4511, 4513, 4515, 4517, 4519, 4521, 4523, 4525, 4527, 4529, 4531, 4533, 4535, 4537, 4539, 4541, 4543, 4545, 4547, 4549, 4551, 4553, 4555, 4557, 4559, 4561, 4563, 4565, 4567, 4569, 4571, 4573, 4575, 4577, 4579, 4581, 4583, 4585, 4587, 4589, 4591, 4593, 4595, 4597, 4599, 4601, 4603, 4605, 4607, 4609, 4611, 4613, 4615, 4617, 4619, 4621, 4623, 4625, 4627, 4629, 4631, 4633, 4635, 4637, 4639, 4641, 4643, 4645, 4647, 4649, 4651, 4653, 4655, 4657, 4659, 4661, 4663, 4665, 4667, 4669, 4671, 4673, 4675, 4677, 4679, 4681, 4683, 4685, 4687, 4689, 4691, 4693, 4695, 4697, 4699, 4701, 4703, 4705, 4707, 4709, 4711, 4713, 4715, 4717, 4719, 4721, 4723, 4725, 4727, 4729, 4731, 4733, 4735, 4737, 4739, 4741, 4743, 4745, 4747, 4749, 4751, 4753, 4755, 4757, 4759, 4761, 4763, 4765, 4767, 4769, 4771, 4773, 4775, 4777, 4779, 4781, 4783, 4785, 4787, 4789, 4791, 4793, 4795, 4797, 4799, 4801, 4803, 4805, 4807, 4809, 4811, 4813, 4815, 4817, 4819, 4821, 4823, 4825, 4827, 4829, 4831, 4833, 4835, 4837, 4839, 4841, 4843, 4845, 4847, 4849, 4851, 4853, 4855, 4857, 4859, 4861, 4863, 4865, 4867, 4869, 4871, 4873, 4875, 4877, 4879, 4881, 4883, 4885, 4887, 4889, 4891, 4893, 4895, 4897, 4899, 4901, 4903, 4905, 4907, 4909, 4911, 4913, 4915, 4917, 4919, 4921, 4923, 4925, 4927, 4929, 4931, 4933, 4935, 4937, 4939, 4941, 4943, 4945, 4947, 4949, 4951, 4953, 4955, 4957, 4959, 4961, 4963, 4965, 4967, 4969, 4971, 4973, 4975, 4977, 4979, 4981, 4983, 4985, 4987



Getting the cart (distributor) BEHIND the horse (consumer)

"A" and "B" are manufacturers of high grade radio sets. Both are seeking national distribution.

"A" appropriated \$400,000 in 1928 for an advertising campaign in general mediums to create distribution through consumer demand. He by-passed the dealer—didn't consider his selective function.

"B" went after it differently. He appropriated \$125,000 for general consumer mediums and \$25,000 for the papers of his trade. He intended to create distribution direct and along with consumer demand. He recognized that if the dealer had a place in his sales program then the dealer's magazine had a place in his advertising program. *Radio Retailing* was used as his key paper.

A recent accounting shows that "B" sold three times as many radio sets as "A" during 1928.

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February 22, 1930

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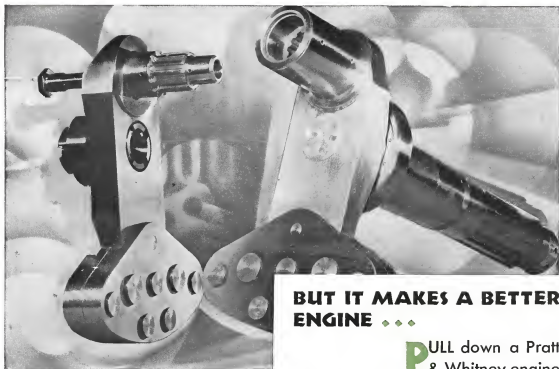


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